

**Fax fonte accensa, fire out of water: or, an endeavour to kindle devotion, from the consideration of the fountains God hath made ... Designed for the benefit of those who use the waters of Tunbridg-Wells, the Bath ... etc. Two sermons preached at New Chappel / by Tunbridg-Wells. With devout meditations of Cardinal Bellarmin upon fountains of waters.**

### **Contributors**

Walker, Anthony, -1692

Bellarmino, Roberto Francesco Romolo, Saint, 1542-1621

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FIRE  
OUT OF  
WATER  
—  
WALKER









**1153 Water Cure.**—WALKER (Dr. Ant.)  
Fax fonte accensa: Fire out of Water; or, an  
Endeavour to kindle Devotion from the consider-  
ation of the Fountains God hath made. Designed  
for the benefit of those who use the Waters of  
TUNBRIDGE WELLS, the BATH, EPSOM, SCAR-  
BOROUGH, CHIGWELL, etc., sm. 8vo, *old calf*  
(*rebaked*), 5/- 1684

The similes are instructive owing to the good divines  
proximity to the Waters. He preached these sermons at  
*New Chappel by Tunbridge Wells.*

53215/A

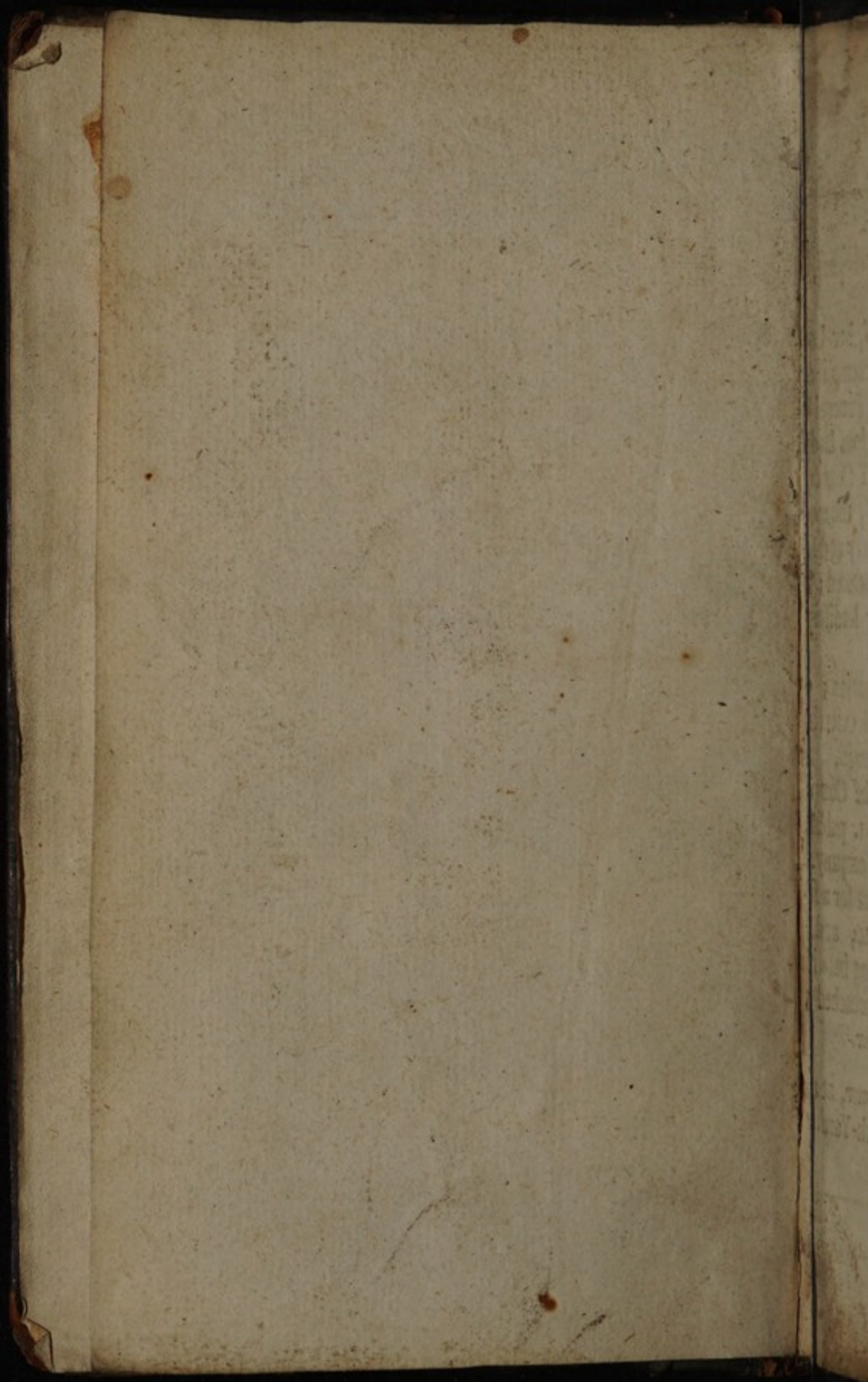
Water Cure  
Walker  
57/-

430  
27/-



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Allentown by William R. ...



---

*The same Author hath also published,*

**T**HE *Vertuous Woman found*, her Loss bewail'd, and Character exemplified. In a Sermon preached at the Funeral of that most Excellent and Religious Lady, the Right Honourable *MARY* Countess Dowager of *WARWICK*, the most Illustrious Patern of sincere Piety and solid Goodness this Age hath produced; to which is annexed some of her Ladiship's pious and useful Meditations.

The great Evil of Procrastination; or the Sinfulness and Danger of deferring Repentance. In several Discourses.

A Sermon preached before the Company of *Apothecaries* on *Eccles. 10. 1.* published at the Request of the said Company.

*Say on:* Or, a seasonable Plea for a full hearing betwixt Man and Man; and a ferious Plea for the like hearing betwixt God and Man: in a Sermon preached at the Assizes at *Chelmsford* in *Essex*.

All four sold by *Nathaniel Raven*, at the King's-Arms in *St. Paul's Church-Yard*.

---



*H. Ward 1024*

*Fax Fonte Accensa,*

# Fire out of Water :

O R,

An Endeavour to kindle Devotion,  
from the Consideration of the  
FOUNTAINS God hath made.

Designed for the Benefit of those who  
use the Waters of TUNBRIDG-  
WELLS, the Bath, Epsom,  
Scarborough, Chigwell, Astrop,  
Northall, &c.

Two SERMONS preached at New  
Chappel by Tunbridg-Wells.

With Devout Meditations of Cardinal  
*Bellarmin* upon Fountains of Waters.

Also some Forms of Meditations, Pray-  
ers, and Thanksgivings, suited  
to the occasion.

---

By ANTHONY WALKER, D. D.

---

*O ye Wells, bless ye the Lord, praise him, and magni-  
fy him for ever. Song of the three Children.*

---

London, Printed for Nathaniel Ranew at the  
King's-Arms in St. Paul's Church-Yard.  
MDCLXXXIV.



THE FONTAINS OF WEST  
T. O. F.

An Endeavour to kindle Devotion  
in the Fountain of the  
FONTAINS OF GOD  
Designed for the Benefit of those who  
use the Waters of TUNBRIDGE-  
WELLS, the Capital of Kent,  
Containing a Description of the  
Fountain, &c.  
Two SERMONS preached at New  
Chapel by Cuthbert Talbot.  
With Devout Meditations of Cardinal  
Bellarmine upon Fontains of Water.  
Also some Forms of Meditations, Pray-  
ers, and Thanksgivings, fitted  
to the occasion.

By ANTHONY WALKER, D.D.



London, Printed for W. and A. Machell at the  
King's Arms in St. Pauls Church-Yard.  
MDCCLXXIV.



THE  
Epistle Dedicatory  
TO

Mr. NATHANIEL HAWES,  
Citizen of London, and Treas-  
urer of *Christ-Church Hospital.*

*Honoured Friend;*



HO the mutual In-  
tercourse of kind  
and good Offices,  
which hath some  
Years past betwixt  
us, and especially at Tunbridg-  
Wells, might excuse, yea oblige  
me to so open an Acknowledg-  
ment of the Sense I have of



*The Epistle Dedicatory.*

your Civilities and Friendship,  
and the inscribing your Name  
upon these Papers without fur-  
ther prospect of you, than in  
your single and personal Capa-  
city, would be too small a re-  
turn for those Kindnesses, by  
which I am become your Deb-  
tor.

Yet give me leave to tell you,  
I herein consider you under that  
more publick Character, where-  
with your Zeal, your Cost, your  
Pains about the erecting of that  
commodious, beautiful and Ele-  
gant Structure of the Chappel,  
we all here injoy the benefit of,  
justly invests you.

And if I could represent your  
Effigies in the Front of these few  
Sheets;



*The Epistle Dedicatory.*

Sheets, it should be with your green Book in your Hand; gratefully receiving, modestly soliciting, and faithfully recording, the royal, noble, generous Contributions to this pious useful Work, which have amounted to about Eleven hundred Pounds, by your prudent Care and Industry, faithfully expended in the erecting and adorning of it.

And I hereby, as much as in me lies, constitute you, who was for the greater part, receiver of their Money; Receiver-general in their Name, of all the Honour I can do them, and the best Gratitude I can return them, for their so large and pious Liberality.

A. 4.

And



*The Epistle Dedicatory.*

And in this Inscription which I make to you, as their Trustee and Representative, I dedicate these Papers to them all, with deepest Submission, begging both their Pardon and Acceptance of so faint and disproportionable a return from the meanest of those Divines who willingly bestow our Pains amongst them, till some of those excellent Persons, of greater Ability, Name and Merit, be pleas'd to do it, with actual Performances, which may equal my Wishes and Desires to do them Honour, and edify and inflame their Devotion.

The late fresh Accession of Princely Bounty, set as a Crown  
upon



*The Epistle Dedicatory.*

upon the Head of the preceding Charity, will not only be the lasting Ornament and Glory of the publick Table, you have exposed in the Chappel to every Mans view, of all Monies received and expended, (to prevent Obloquy and Suspicion in them who know you not, for those who know you, do not need it;) But I hope is a good *Omen*, that in due time, it may be as conveniently endow'd as it is commodiously built, that there may be Wells of Salvation for the poor Neighbourhood all the Year; and if I may without imputation of Lightness, allude to St. Paul's Expression, *The Word may be preach'd in season, and out of (Water) season.* Let not this unexpected Address, be as unwel-



*The Epistle Dedicatory.*

welcome as unlook'd for; neither let the Meanness of it cool the Reciprocation of that Esteem and Friendship, which hath hitherto been so obligingly allow'd to, Honoured Sir,

*Your cordial Friend, and*

*willing Servant,*

ANTHONY WALKER.

From my Lodgings  
near Tunbridg-  
Wells, July 24.  
1684.

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T H E





THE  
P R E F A C E

TO THE  
Christian Reader,

Especially Such as use the Mi-  
neral Waters.

Good Reader ;



As it is unquestionably the  
Duty and Interest of  
every Christian, both  
to acquire and retain  
a deep and most serious  
sense of God upon his own Heart ;  
and as much as possibly he can, to  
impress



## The Preface.

impress the like upon his fellow Christians.

So this Care is in a greater and more eminent degree incumbent upon Christ's Ministers, whom he hath singled out and appointed to attend upon this most important Affair, and Business. And as no means are to be esteem'd improper or superfluous which God hath afforded or designed to this end; we ought our selves to learn, and teach others, from both the Books which God hath written for our Institution and Instruction. Now these Books are that of the Creatures, and that of the Scriptures; of his Works, and of his Word; of his Providences, and of his Ordinances; of Nature and of Grace. Holy David joyns both these together in the 19th Psalm. He begins with the first, The Heavens declare the



## The Preface.

the Glory of God, the Firmament shews his handy-work; to Verse the 7th, where he proceeds to the second, The Law of the Lord is perfect, converting the Soul: the Testimony of the Lord is sure, making wise the simple; the Statutes of the Lord are right, rejoycing the Heart, &c.

And as it cannot be denied, that both these great Volumes are full of the glorious Discoveries of God; so it must be confest, that the Waters are one of the fairest and most legible Characters in which God's Name is written in the Book of Nature.

The Rains, the Seas, the Rivers and the Fountains are as authentick witnesses of the the Being, and of the Power, Wisdom and Goodness of God, as any of those other visibles, which reflect the invisible Perfections of the  
great



## The Preface.

great Creator, Preserver and Governour of all things. The Waters are a natural Looking-glass, or Mirror; in them, Face answer to Face, as the Wise-Man tells us, Prov. 27. 19. And the Face of God may be seen reflected in them, as clearly and distinctly as in any of his providential Manifestations. And if the ordinary Properties of common Waters, in their cleansing, fructifying, softening, moistning, thirst-quenching, and uniting Qualities, perform this so well; how much more do the Mineral Springs, by their extraordinary Virtues of healing, opening, purging, dulcifying, mollifying, strengthening, &c. and being most signally beneficial, loudly proclaim it? That it must argue great Stupidness not to observe it, and greater Ingratitude, yea Impiety, not to admire, love and  
praise



## The Preface.

praise him for them, who hath indu-  
ed them with these Virtues, especially  
in those who use them, and have  
found them beneficial, and reap'd Ad-  
vantage by the use of them.

These things considered, and see-  
ing so many hundreds, yea thousands  
in this and other Nations, yearly use  
such Waters, both by Bathing and  
Potation; I cannot but wonder that  
nothing hath hitherto been publish'd,  
(that I could ever hear of) to pro-  
voke, promote, or assist their Devoti-  
on from this particular Topick.

Certainly if the Scale or Ladder  
of the Creatures be excellently fitted,  
to help the Minds ascent to God; there  
is no round or step in all that Lad-  
der more steady and firm (how un-  
stable soever Water be of it self)  
than this of the Waters.

Cardinal Bellarmin in the Trea-  
tise



## The Preface:

tise which he wrote (De ascensione mentis in Deum, per scalas rerum creaturum) not as an engaged Disputant, and peevish angry Controvertist, but as becomes a serious pious Christian, in his September, the Month he reserved for Contemplation and Devotion; with a calm and sedate Spirit, relishing of no Heats, but those decent and commendable ones of Zeal Devotion, Admiration, Love and Thankfulness, hath one of the most considerable Chapters [Gradus Quartus] upon this Subject; the sum of which, for the sake of English Readers, I have subjoyned amongst the Meditations and Prayers.

I have therefore, (like Elihu in the Book of Job) provoked by the silence of those who were fatter for it, adventured to adapt a Discourse



## The Preface.

course, and add some Forms of Meditation, Prayers and Thanksgivings, for the use of those who attend the Mineral Waters. I heartily wish it had come a few days, or weeks, sooner into my mind; that I might have had a little more time to have rendred it less incompleat.

But I was loth wholly to slip this Water-season, and therefore must adventure it abroad, so unpolisht as it is: It may provoke some abler Hand: or, if it find but tolerable Acceptance, put me upon the trial, what I can do to its melioration, with some more leisure and intention of thoughts. Much of it was written at the Wells (since my coming down this Season, and all transcrib'd and sent up sheet by sheet;) where, 'tis true, I had my Text daily before mine Eyes, but wanted my Books to comment on it.

But



## The Preface.

But tho't was partly writ at Tun-bridg-Wells, and chiefly calculated for those who use them; yet I had a Prospect of their Benefit, who use other Mineral Waters, whether for inward or outward Distempers, by drinking, or by bathing.

Amongst many other strange Fountains, St. Augustin writes of two: One which is always full of Fish. De Genesi ad lit. lib. 3. cap. 8. Another, that will light or kindle Torches, tho its Water of it self be cold. De Civ. Dei, lib. 21. cap. 5.

And there is in Lancashire the like Fountain, (as I was lately here informed by a Person of Reputation, whose Testimony I do not in the least question, he being an Eye-witness of it) that being stirr'd at the bottom, the steam of it will kindle Paper into a flame.

If



## The Preface.

If I can at these Fountains catch any Fish, in his sense who said, henceforth you shall become Fishers of Men, I shall sacrifice my Praises, not to my Net, but unto Him at whose Word I let it down. For to fish for any thing else in such an Undertaking, I look upon as so unmanly, so unpriestly, so unchristian; that I should greatly despise my self, should I not despise so low, so muddy motives.

And if I can bring Fire out of this Water, and kindle a Torch of Religion, and inflame my own, and other Mens Devotion; the most ascending of those flames shall mount up to Him in humble Acknowledgments, who put the price into my hand, and gave me a heart in any measure to improve it. I will trouble you with no Apologies for my publishing these Papers, they seldom are free from Blame, never  
from



## The Preface.

from sinister Suspicion ; and such Gildings oftner make them keck, for whom they are prepared, than the Pills themselves they were designed to cover.

I thank God, I can sincerely and with comfort say, I meant well, and aimed at the Glory of God, and the Edification of those into whose hands they may come, how weakly soever I have performed : and this will yield me inward satisfaction, tho it should render me in some Mens eyes, as David's dancing before the Ark rendred him in the eyes of Michal.

I shall conclude with these few Requests : and the first thing I ask of thee, good Reader, is, That thou wouldst be like to God, in accepting of a willing mind.

Secondly ; If thou meetest here and there with an expression out of the road,



## The Preface.

road of common phrase, thou wouldst not impute it to a vain affectation of hard words, but consider, that the nature of the Subject constrain'd me to the use of them. For tho I am a very incompetent Judge of Oratory; yet I know that the most masculine Eloquence is made up of plain expressive words (provided they be not slovenly and rude) which suitably cloath the Notions of the Speaker, and aptly convey them to the Understandings of the Hearers. My Age allows me not to be a florid Speaker, had I ability to be so. I remember it was the reproach of Hortensius, to be at once both green and gray, a verdant Orator in his fading, withered years. In a word, who-ever knows the Auditory to which I spake, cannot deny, that speaking as I did, and excusing of my self that I could speak no better, needs no excuse.

Third-



## The Preface.

Thirdly ; That if thou wilt not be so humble and so pious, as to be made better by it thy self, yet be not so unjust and unkind as to reproach it, and thereby hinder others from being benefited by it.

Lastly ; If but one or two shall imploy some of those vacant hours this time and place affords them, and shall thereby be helpt to pray to God, or to praise him ; I entreat them to beg a Blessing on this Work, and him who is their Christian Brother and Servant, for Jesus sake,

A. W.

Jo.



The Preface.

Reader, Whereas the Title over  
the Pages are, *A Sermon preached at  
Tunbridg*, it should have been, *Two  
Sermons preached at Tunbridg Wells*.



Jo. Hen. Alstedius Encyclop.  
lib. 18. cap. 6. de Fontibus  
præcipuis.

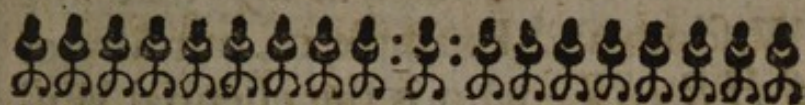
*Peroratio Hydrographiæ.*

**H**ÆC est Hydrographia Marium, Lacuum, Fluminum & Fontium: Quæ quatuor præcones Potentiæ Sapientiæ & Clementiæ Divinæ: Surda qui prætervehitur aure, nè ille plusquam ingratus: Nam sive quantitatem consideres, illa est stupenda; sive qualitates ille sunt utilissima, sive motum, ille est admirandus. Quæ omnia nos manuducunt ad Dei Opt. Max. admirationem & adorationem, cui soli sit laus in solidum.

The Seas, the Lakes, the Rivers, and the Fountains, are four loud Proclaimers of the Divine Power, VVisdom, and Goodness, to which who ever turns a deaf Ear, he is worse than ingrateful: For whether you consider the Quantity, it is stupendous; or the Qualities, they are most beneficial; or their Motion, it is wonderful. All which do lead us by the Hand to the Admiration and Adoration of that God, who is superlatively Great and Good; to whom alone be everlasting Praises.



( 1 )



A  
S E R M O N  
O N

REV. 14. 7.

—— *And worship him that made the  
Fountains of Waters.*



HE Words I have read,  
and the Place where  
we are, have so agree-  
able an Aspect upon  
each other, that it needs  
no farther Intimation,  
to shew what I design, or aim at, in  
the choice of them.

Nor will an *Apology* for my fixing  
on them be more necessary, to any  
who will allow (and who is not  
B asham'd



asham'd to disallow it? ) that the Wisdom and Example of our Master *CHRIST*, who is the essential Wisdom of the only wise God, is the best and most Authentick *Copy* for all his Servants to write after.

For nothing is more notorious, than that most of his Sermons were occasional, preach'd upon visible Texts; Improvements of earthly Objects, to heavenly Purposes. A Method which insensibly prepares the Auditors, and innocently charms them to Attention, without bespeaking it. Such was that in the 4<sup>th</sup> of *St. John* to the Woman of *Samaria*, who came to draw Water at *Jacob's Well*, to stir up her desire after that living Water which he gives, and of which *whoever drinks, shall thirst no more: but it becomes in him a Well of Water, springing up unto Everlasting Life.* And such was that in the sixth of the same Evangelist, of the *Bread of Life*, the true Bread which comes down from Heaven, which he exhorts them to labour for, from his observing how they



they followed him, because he had fed them with the multiply'd Loaves.

I shall supercede more Instances, lest I seem indecently to suspect your observing that, which is so obvious and remarkable, that he who runs may read it.

But it may possibly more need excuse, that I have pitch'd upon a Passage in that Book, which partly by its enigmatical, prophetical Stile, and partly by the Misadventures of those who have adventur'd to unriddle it, seems like that little Book in the Angel's Hand, *Chap. 5. 1, 2, 3.* of which none on Earth have been found worthy to unloose the Seals, and bless the World with a clear Interpretation of it. But I hope this modest short Reply, may suffice to remove that Prejudice: What St. *Augustin* observ'd of the whole Scripture is applicable to this part of it, the *Apocalypse*; Tho there be depths in which the Elephant may swim, there are also Shallows, in which the Lamb may wade. And tho its Prophecies are so



profound, we want a Line to sound and fathom them ; and must wait till Events and Completions, ( their best and only infallible Interpreters ) render them intelligible and plain ; and which might be written, not to gratify our Curiosity with the fore-Knowledg of what is future, but to confirm their Faith who shall live to see them fulfill'd, that they who see them come to pass may believe, as our Saviour speaks on the like account, St. *John* 14. 29. Yet are there many doctrinal Truths, and moral practical Duties, in this very Book, most easy, plain and clear, and no where to be found more intelligibly exprest, or more positively asserted : Such as are the Divinity of Christ : The truth and efficacy of his Death and Resurrection : that there are Eternal Rewards and Punishments for good and bad Men : That the true God is only to be worshipped ; that he is to be adored and celebrated for his wonderful Works, and for that Wisdom, Power and Good-



Goodness, which shines forth in them. I might give many more Instances of the like kind, and say of them all, as St. *Augustin* doth expressly of many Passages in this Book; *Tanta luce dicta sunt, ut nulla debeamus in literis sacris querere vel legere manifesta, si hæc putaverimus obscura.* See *De Civitate Dei lib. 20. cap. 17.* They are spoken with so much Light and Clearness, that nothing in sacred Writ is to be esteemed plain and easy, if these Truths be reckoned obscure and unintelligible.

But I need no other, no clearer Instance than this Verse, which contains the Sum of the everlasting Gospel, which the Angel, whom St. *John* saw in the preceding Verse, flying in the midst of Heaven, had to preach to all Nations, Kindreds, Tongues, and People; and he executes and discharges his Trust with great Faithfulness and Boldness, with a loud Voice, that all might hear, in *Isaiah's* Phrase, a Voice lift up like a Trumpet. The main design and scope of



his preaching is, to call the World from their Idolatry, to the Worship and Service of the true God only ; and to shew, that in this consists the Life, the Soul, the Spirit of true Religion, the Sum and Substance of the Gospel, to admit no Competitors with God in the matter of his Worship.

The whole Sermon is reduceable to two Points ; The Duty exhorted to, and the Motive by which that Duty is prest. Both which, are in their kind, of the highest Importance ; no Duty can be more necessary and indispensable, no Motive can be more cogent and irresistible. *The hour of his Judgment is come ;* 'tis spoken of in the present Tense, to shew the immutable certainty ; shall as surely come, as if it were come already. And he that considers this, and is not awakened by it, is not restrained from worshipping what is not God, and provoked effectually to serve and worship him, hath an Heart harder than an Anvil, or an Adamant.

The



The Duty is one for Substance, but hath three Parts or Degrees, preparatory or subservient to one another.

1. *Fear God.*

2. *Give him Glory.*

3. *Worship him.*

To which last is added a most august Periphrasis to describe him, *viz. Who made the Heaven, the Earth, the Sea and the Fountains.* The first prepares for the other two.

I. The Fear of God is the Foundation and Corner-stone of all Religion. Both *David* and *Solomon* assure us, that 'tis the Beginning, the Head, the Top of Wisdom, even of that by which Men become wise unto Salvation.

'Tis the Character of the worst of Men, *to have no fear of God before their Eyes.* An awful Dread of the Divine Majesty is the greatest and best Restraint and Barrier against all Impiety. Where this is remov'd or broken down, the boldest Wicked-



ness flows in as a Flood, as a Torrent, and bears down all before it. When carnal Security hath erased the Notions of a Divine Being, there's no Impiety so bad, and boundless, into which Men will not run and rush. And little *hope* remains, that instituted and revealed Religion should avail, where the very Seeds and Roots of all natural Religion are choak'd and pluck'd up. They will never give God Glory, who do not acknowledge his Being and Providence, and retain not a *deep* Awe, and profound Veneration for him.

2. The second step or degree in the enjoined Duty is, *Give Glory to him*. This is the Superstructure, to be next erected, and built upon it, when and where the Foundation of it, his Fear, is laid and well settled.

*Glory* is Excellency manifested. And to give God Glory, is to acknowledge the excellent Perfections of his Nature, with Affections and Actions suitable to those acknowledged Perfectioni-



Perfections, and to praise him for them.

Now both because this is expressly call'd the everlasting Gospel, which is the glad Tidings of Salvation to lost Mankind by Jesus Christ, which the Angel (that is the Ministers of the Gospel) was to preach: and also because *the Light of the Knowledge of the Glory of God, shines in the Face of Jesus Christ*, 2 Cor. 4. 6. that is, the Gospel, and is therein most clearly manifested. We give Glory to God most eminently, most acceptably, by believing and obeying the Gospel.

That's the true Tabernacle in which his Glory dwells in the World. He hath made all his Glory pass before him, in the Accomplishment of Mans Salvation by his Son's Mediation, which he strives with us by his Spirit to perswade and draw us to accept and improve: Herein he hath gloriously displayed his unsearchable Wisdom, his infinite Power, the inexhaustible Treasuries of his Grace and Mercy, and the Immutability of his Truth and Faithfulness,



ness, which cannot shrink or shake, but stands faster than the ancient Hills. And we then give him the Glory he expects, when by obeying the Gospel we openly profess, that we esteem him to be such, as the Gospel hath declared him to be; so wise, so great, so good, so true, as he is worthy to be acknowledged, for what he hath done for us in and by the Gospel of his Son.

3. The third degree or step in the enjoined Duty is—*And worship him which made the Heavens, and the Earth, and the Sea, and the Fountains of Water.* In this third Branch he calls the World from their Superstitions to the Worship of the only true God, of whom he gives a most August Description by his incommunicable Works, and excludes and shuts out all Competitors from being worshipped, who cannot shew their Title to it, by such stupendous Works as these. And as in the first he laid the Foundation, and in the second raised the Superstructure, so in this third he secures



cures its standing ; Nothing so much threatening the over-throw and ruine of God's Glory as giving religious Worship to any thing that by nature is not God.

But our present Concern and Business permits me not to grasp at the whole of this Angelick Sermon ; nor allows me to enquire into the scope, and give the Explication of the whole Prophetick Scene, but confines me to the third Branch, and even in that, excludes a great part of the Periphrasis, by which he who may, and must be worshipped, is described ; that is, *He that made the Heaven, Earth and Sea*: which is a Character of the true God, so proper, so peculiar, so exclusive of all Competitors, so intelligible, so awful and affecting, that we meet with it every where most frequently in holy Writ, in the Law, the Prophets, the Psalms, and the New Testament.

But my own choice and design, and I suppose your Expectation, limits me to the last Syllable of this  
glo-



glorious Name — *The Fountains of Waters*, which when I have joyn'd to the preceptive Words in the beginning, by an innocent omission of the intermediate, comes to this, — *Worship him that made the Fountains of Waters.*

In which Words we have three Particulars to be observed.

1. A Description of the Object of Religious Adoration, which may and which must be worshipped, *Him that made the Fountains of Waters.*

2. An imply'd Reason of the requiring us to give such Worship to him: Because he made the Fountains of Waters.

3. An actual injoyning the Payment of this Homage to him, under that Notion, and upon that account: *Worship him who made the Fountains,* and do it for that reason, because he made them.

Now for the clearer understanding, and more useful improvement of these Particulars, and to demonstrate the argumentative force of this Reason, that



that he who made the Fountains must therefore be worshipped, I shall reduce all I have to speak to them to this easy method.

I. To enquire what is the sole Object, adequate Reason, and right Notion of Religious Worship.

II. Who made, and in a short Digression, how he made the Fountains.

III. Why the Angel propounds him to be worshipp'd under this Notion, *Maker of the Fountains*; and how it may appear that this is a good and sufficient Reason to oblige us to it.

IV. Draw practical Inferences from the whole, proper to us at this Place and Time.

I begin with the first Inquiry, concerning the Object, Reason and right Notion of Religious Worship.

The true God is the sole Object of Religious Worship. *Thou shalt wor-  
ship*



ship the Lord thy God, and him only shalt thou serve. And the adequate reason of his Worship, is, because he is God, that is, a Being absolutely perfect, which is the best Notion of God. A Being which hath infinite Wisdom, Power, Goodness, and full Authority and Dominion over us; All-sufficient Ability, and most gracious Willingness to help us. And there are as many Reasons for his Worship, as there are Proofs and Manifestations of these his adorable Perfections, either in the Works of Creation and Providence, as he is God of Nature; or in the Work of Redemption, by the Renovation and Salvation of Sinners, as he is the God of all Grace. Now, tho I do not equallize these Reasons, and affirm all of them to be of the same Evidence and Cogency: Yet I say, whatever Works of Nature or of Grace, manifest these and the like adorable Perfections to be in him, render him, for that reason, a suitable Object of Adoration, and bind us to perform it to him.

Now



Now the Worship we owe, and must pay him, is sometimes taken largely for the whole of true Religion, by which we expect Salvation. *In colendo rectè Deo una salus est. St. Augustin.* Our whole Salvation depends upon our right worshipping of God. And again, To love God with all our Heart, and Soul, and Strength, and to commend God as much as possibly we can to the Love of our Neighbour. *Hic est Dei cultus, hæc vera Religio, hæc recta Pietas, hæc tantùm Deo debita Servitus. De Civ. Dei, lib. 5. c. 4.* This is God's Worship, this is true Religion, this is right Godliness, this is the only Service due to God. So that to worship God, is to be truly godly, and sincerely religious, good in good earnest, and to pay him all the Service our holy Religion exacts from us towards him.

But secondly; The Notion of Worship is more confined and restrained, and is either internal or external.

I. Inter-



I. Internal, again, is either the Act of the Mind, Reason and Judgment: Or of the Heart, Soul, Will and Affections.

In the first respect, as it is an Act of our Reason, Mind and Understanding, it implies our knowing and acknowledging his Superiority and full Dominion over us, and esteeming him a Being so fully and absolutely perfect, that in fruition of him, we may be compleatly and absolutely happy and blessed. *Solus ille colendus est, quo solo fruens beatus est cultor ejus: & quo solo non fruens omnis mens misera est, qualibet re alia perfruatur.* Aug. lib. 20. *contra Faustum Manich.* cap. 5.

He only is to be worshipped, by injoying whom alone his Worshipper is made blessed, and by the want of whom alone every Soul is miserable what ever else he doth enjoy.

In the second respect, as it is an Act of our Will and Affections, it implies our choice of him, and adherence to him, by loving, fearing, trust-  
ing



ing and delighting in him, submitting to him, obeying and imitating of him, as a Being, which is the chiefest Good, Great, True, Just, Holy, and the perfect Idea of all most amiable and desirable Excellencies. *Optimus cultus quem colis imitari*, saith *Lactantius*, that is the most acceptable Worship, to imitate and endeavour to be like him whom we worship. *Pietus cultus Dei est, nec colitur ille nisi amando*, *Aug. Epist. 120.* No Worship is accepted but what proceeds from Love.

2. External Worship is that which expresses the inward Frame and Disposition of our Minds and Souls, by apt and suitable signs of bodily Gestures, as bowing our Knees, uncovering our Heads, Prostration of our Bodies, confessing of him, praying to him, giving him Thanks with our Mouths, and performing all the parts of his instituted Worship according to his Will and Word : for not only the second Commandment requires this, but the Light of Nature ; for  
Socra-



Socrates, a heathen Philosopher, could say, *Unumquemq; Deum sic coli oportet quomodo se ipse colendum præceperit*, Every God ought to be worshipp'd, as he commands himself to be worshipp'd.

So that the Worship of God reaches to, and is to be performed by, the whole inward and outward Man, and we must thereby glorify him in our Bodies and our Spirits, which are both his, 1 Cor. 6. 20. first with our Spirits and Minds, knowing, acknowledging and esteeming him as a Being absolutely perfect and all-sufficient, most able and willing to help and make us happy.

Secondly; Loving him, fearing him, trusting in him, as most good, and great, and true, &c.

Thirdly; With our Bodies, by all those reverential Gestures, which are proper Signs and Indications of the right Frame and Disposition of our Hearts towards him; and this last seems to be implied in the very Notation of the Greek Word here used



used προσκυνήσατε, which is (as some say) derived from the Verb κύνω, osculor, to kiss, because it was the Custom of the Eastern Nations to worship by kissing the Hand, the Knee, &c. *Psal. 2. Kiss the Son, &c. Hos. 13. 2. Let the Men that sacrifice, kiss the Calves.* Or else from κυών *Canis*, a Dog, from the humble Posture of a Spaniel lying at and licking of his Masters Feet. For things in their own Nature low and mean, may afford Allusions to, and be Illustrations of, matters of the highest and greatest moment and importance. It implies a willing Acknowledgment of his Heighth, and our Lowness; his Dominion, and our Subjection; his All-sufficiency, and our Indigency.

Thus much for the first Particular propounded, the Sum of which is this, That the true God must be worshipp'd with our Spirit, Soul, and Body; and whatever proves him to be such, is a good and sufficient Reason to engage us to perform such Worship to him, whether it proceed from  
him



him as the God of Nature, or of Grace.

II. The second thing propounded to be inquired into was, Who made the Fountains of Waters, and how he made them? that we may both try and prove his Title to Religious Adoration upon that account.

The Solution of the first Branch of this Enquiry, is easy by the Principles of Divinity; but the second is more difficult by the Principles of Philosophy.

To the first therefore I may answer briefly, The true God made them: which the holy Scriptures both assert and prove.

I. They assert it. *Prov. 8.* seems both to be very express, and very emphatical: for there *Solomon* brings in Wisdom, that is, Christ, the essential Wisdom of God, asserting and proving his own eternal Being, and everlasting Subsistence. And he proves it by a double Medium, or two Arguments; first, because he was  
before



before God's oldest Works.

Secondly, because he was present at the making of them.

The first he does in five Verses, from the 22<sup>d</sup> to 26, inclusively. Vers. 22. *The Lord possesed me in the beginning of his Ways, before his Works of old.* Then he enumerates and gives Instances of those Works: as the Earth, Vers. 23. *I was set up from everlasting, from the beginning, or ever the Earth was.* Next in the Depth and Fountains, Vers. 24. *When there were no Depths was I brought forth, when there were no Fountains abounding with Water.* Where the Earth, the Depths, and the Fountains of Waters, are expressly call'd his Works, yea the most ancient, the earliest, the first-born of his Works, which he glories in being known by, as the Father and Maker of them.

The second Argument by which he proves the Eternity of his Substance is, That he was present with God when he prepared the Heavens, stablished the Clouds above, and strength-



strengthened the Fountains of the deep: where the making the Fountains is as directly ascribed to him, as the making of the Heavens. This place is so full and clear, it might suffice alone, with the Text, without adding more.

The Spirit of Christ, speaking by the Mouth of *Solomon*, gives us assurance, that his Father made the Fountains.

And *David* saith no less: for, speaking of God, he saith, *Psal.* 104. 10. *He sendeth forth his Springs into the Valleys, which run among the Hills; they are his Springs, and he sends them forth.*

*Psal.* 107. 33, & 35. *He turneth the Rivers into a Wilderness, and the Water-Springs into dry Ground. Then again, He turneth the Wilderness into a standing-water, and dry Ground into Water-Springs.*

*Isa.* 35. 6, 7. *In the Wilderness shall Waters break out, and Streams in the Desert; and the parched Land shall become a Pool, and the thirsty Land*  
*Springs*



*Springs of Water.* And let it be sup-  
pos'd and granted, that these Expres-  
sions are figurative, and signify the  
pouring out of his Spirit in the Gra-  
ces and Comforts of it, upon deso-  
late and weary Souls: yet the thing  
must be first true in the literal and  
natural Sence, that God can and  
doth perform such things in the course  
of Nature, and Providence, and can  
and will do what is like them, in the  
Operations of his Grace. Again,

Isa. 41. 18. *I will open Rivers in  
high places, and Fountains in the midst  
of the Valleys; I will make the Wilder-  
ness a Pool of Water, and the dry Land  
Springs of Water.*

And in the Canticle, *Benedicite om-  
nia opera*, commonly called the *Song  
of the three Children*, which in our  
Liturgy is appointed to be said or  
sung after the first Lesson at Morning  
Prayer, *Te Deum*, or that, and is  
taken out of the Additions to *Dani-  
el*; Where all the *Magnalia*, the sig-  
nal Works of God are reckoned up,  
and excited to bless the Lord, which  
is



is to provoke Men to bless God for them. There we find Fountains or Wells, in the List or Catalogue of those famous Works of God. *O ye Wells, bless ye the Lord, praise him, and magnify him for ever.* And I wish that in this place at least that *Canticle* were sometimes read, as the Liturgy appoints; for not only that Versicle is very proper, but the whole very warming and enflaming.

I stay not to descant upon every Scripture I have cited, nor to shew wherein their Strength lay, to prove what I produc'd them for, because I suppose such Evidence to accompany them, that 'tis needless, and would be superfluous. I may subjoin Arguments to prove that God made the Fountains, though very transiently.

1. Our Text supposes it, and takes it for granted. And both this Text and the 8th of *Proverbs*, and many other Scriptures, rank them in the same Order and Series with the Heaven, the Earth, and the Sea, to signify



signific that God is as undoubtedly the Maker of those, as of these.

2. The true God made the Waters above the Heavens; He is the Father of the Rain, and he begets the drops of Dew. *Job 38. 28.* And by parity of Reason, He makes the Waters under the Earth, and the Mists, the Vapors, and the Springs that rise from thence.

3. He makes the miraculous extraordinary Fountains, and Streams that flow from them: as that, *Exod. 17. 6.* *Behold, I will stand before thee there upon the Rock, and thou shalt smite the Rock, and there shall come forth Waters out of it.* Which the Psalmist ascribes to God, *Psa. 78. 15.* *He clave the Rock in the Wilderness, and gave them Drink as out of the great Depths.* And *Psal. 105. 41.* *He opened the Rock, and the Waters gushed out: they ran in dry places like a River.* And the other Fountains are the effects of the same Power, and are accounted less miraculous, only because they are more common.



4. God is the great *Artificer* and Maker of Universal Nature. *He that made all things is God.* And whatever second causes he hath appointed and constituted, as instrumental to produce the Fountains, he is as truly the Maker of them still, as he is the Maker of every one of us, tho we had Fathers who begat us, and Mothers in whose Wombs we were all formed. Job 31. 15. *Did not he that made me in the Womb, make him, and did not one fashion us in the Womb? Causa causæ est causa causati.* He is as truly to be intitled to what he produceth mediately, as to his most immediate Productions.

5. Lastly ; The Scripture, which is exceeding jealous of the Glory of God in point of Worship, and can endure Competitors and Copartners, less than a King in his Throne, or an Husband in his Bed, (*My Glory will I not give to another, Isa. 42. 8.*) yet allows and requires the Glory of Religious Worship to be given to him that made the Fountains ; which is an  
infal-



infallible Inference, that by the Scriptures Testimony, he that made them, is the true God.

This may suffice to prove that God made the Fountains. But to demonstrate how he made them, is more difficult.

'Tis a noble and delightful, but withall a busy and perplexed Inquiry, both amongst Divines and Philosophers, concerning the Origine of Fountains, their various useful Qualities, and how they became enriched with them; their Perennity, and constant flowing for so many Ages; their vast depth in the lowest Bowels of the Earth, where they are often found; and again, their strange ascent and heighth, and breaking out, as they sometimes do, in the highest Tops and Summities of Mountains, and many more of no less difficult Solution.

But tho the search into these things be exceeding pleasant to inquisitive Minds, and it might not be unwelcome to many of you to discuss them; Yet it is not so proper for the Pulpit,



as the Schools; and would not well become a Discourse, which designs to minister to Devotion, rather than to gratify your Curiosity, and delight your Fancies.

Yet that I may not tantalize your Minds by a meer starting of Questions, nor disoblige you by a vexing Disappointment, I will first refer you to those Authors, who by what they say themselves, and by directing you to near an hundred more, may, if not satisfy the curious, yet weary the most inquisitive and industrious: and having done that, tho I wade not through, shall dip a little into these Questions.

In that Age, which was *Ingeniorum ferax*, about our Saviour's Birth, when it seem'd good to God to raise up in, and adorn the World with Wits of the first Magnitude, to usher in and attend upon the Incarnation of his eternal Wisdom, such as *Virgil*, *Tully*, *Ovid*, *Horace*; liv'd *L. Annæus*, *Seneca*, that excellent, and I may say, Divine Moralist, and learned natural Philo-



Philosopher, who hath fine Discourses on this Subject, *lib. 3.* of his natural Questions. And few have gone beyond him, notwithstanding the advantage of coming so long in time behind him.

The laborious and diligent *Polonian*, Johan. Jonstonus, *Thaumatrographia naturalis. Clasis secundæ Capit. 4. de origine Fontium*, where you may meet with the Epitome of what our own Country-man, *Tho. Lydiat*, hath written most accutely on this Subject.

*Voetius* in his select Disputations, both discusses the Questions relating to this matter, and gives copious References. *Corn. a Lapide*, on *Ecclesiastes 1. 7.* is large in both disputing it himself, and in referring to the Greek and Latin Fathers and Philosophers. What *Alstedius* says is in no wise despicable, *Encyclop. lib. 13. Physicorum, part 2. cap. 8. Regula 3. and part 4. c. 2. and lib. 18. Hydrograph. cap. 6.*

I forbear to name *Aristotle*, and those who follow the Tract of the  
C 3 old



old Philosophy, or *Cartesius* and his Sectators in the new; because they are well known to those, who can, or will pursue them, and are referred to (the first especially) in those I have nam'd already; and tho it may seem an ignorant or culpable Omission to take no notice of the ingenious Mr. *Thomas Burnet's* new Theory of the Earth, both in Latin and English, I shall have occasion to mention him hereafter.

But not to tire my self and you with naming more, the English Reader may meet with more Satisfaction, than he could expect in so few Pages from any other Pen, in the accurately learned, and truly great Man, the Author of *Origines Sacrae*, lib. 3. cap. 4. §. 6. whose great Happiness it is to speak much in a little, and be short without Obscurity, at once concise and perspicuous, brief and clear.

And having before, I hope, satisfyingly, prov'd that God made the Fountains: Let me briefly touch the Way, the Manner, the Art by which  
that



that great and wise Artificer perform'd this Work, produc'd and made them. And to dismiss and wave the rest, there are three Opinions, which almost all that write on this Subject, chiefly insist upon.

I. First; Some ascribe the Origine of Fountains, to the Transmutation of the Elements; Air and Vapours, say they, getting into the Caverns and hollow Recesses of the Earth, are by the Coldness of the Rocks and Stones condensed and turned into Waters, as we see in Vaults and Cellars; the Stone Walls will stand with Drops, especially when the Air is thick and moist. This Opinion glories in no less Author, than him who was the great Secretary of Nature, *Aristotle*.

This, I confess, may do something, produce some little Rills and fainter Springs; but the Objection against it seems rationally strong, and unanswerable; as to more noble Fountains, which flow *ubere venâ*, from the vast quantities of Waters they send forth, which we



cannot conceive, how this means alone can possibly supply and furnish.

2. Others suppose them to arise from the falling of Rain, and dissolution of Snow, soaking into the Bowels of the Earth, and when it sinks into the hollow Caverns of it, glides through them, till it finds some vent, and makes a Spring at its Eruption, or place of breaking forth. And tho there may be some colour for this in some Times and Places, as near the Alps, yet this is beset with greater Difficulties than the former: from the exceeding depth of many subterraneous Waters, and the Times and Places, where the Rains and Snows, are none, or few and small, and yet afford both plenteous and constant Fountains.

3. Therefore the third and best Opinion, and which is beset with easiest Objections, is, That Fountains arise from the Sea, and from vast Stores and Treasuries of Water, made by God, and reserved under ground, in  
vast



vast capacious Cisterns and Cellars, for this end and use.

And this Opinion fairly claims and pleads both the patronage of Scripture, and the suffrage of Reason.

First, of Scripture, which often mentions the great Abyſs, the Deep, the Depths, ( the same with *Plato's Barathron*) as the Womb and Mother of Springs. Gen. 7. 11. *The Fountains of the great Deep were broken up, to make the Flood.* And again, chap. 8. 2. *The Fountains of the Deep were stopped.* And Job 38. 16. they are call'd *the Springs of the Sea.* Psal. 33. 7. *He layeth up the Depth in Store-houses,* to be thus broach'd and issued forth. Eccles. 1. 7. *All the Rivers run into the Sea, and yet the Sea is not full: unto the place from whence the Rivers come, thither they return again.* They come from the Sea through the Bowels of the Earth; and return unto it, through the Channels in the Surface of it. Fountains are the Mouths by which the Sea and great Abyſs vomit,



and cast forth those mighty Streams,  
the Rivers.

And with the Scripture-Testimony  
concur *Plato* and *Seneca*, and other  
Naturalists. And the Sum of this  
Opinion is, That there are vast pro-  
digious Quantities of Water reserved  
under ground, in huge Caverns and  
hollow Receptacles: and that the Sea  
hath also in the sides and bottom of  
it, either loose spongy Earth, which  
the Waters easily penetrate, and soak  
through: Or else large *Ostia*, wide  
Splits and gaping Orifices, and Whirl-  
pits; by which it empties out, and dis-  
burdens it self of its superfluous Wa-  
ters: without which Evacuations,  
and discharging of it self of that vast  
mass of Waters, which flow continu-  
ally into it by so many Rivers, it must  
necessarily and unavoidably over-  
flow the Earth, which is most obvi-  
ously manifest in the *Caspian* Sea,  
which hath no visible Intercourse  
with, or outlet into the main Ocean,  
and yet the Waters which run into it  
from the might *Volga* in one Year,  
were



were sufficient to drown that part of the World, should it not have secret conveyances and ways of Evacuati-  
ons to prevent its over-flowing.

Some have ingeniously compar'd this *Terraqueous* Globe, to a great Animal: the vast Abyſs is as the Heart or Liver (or the Blood-bowl in the ruſtick Phraſe); theſe Waters are the Blood; the hollow Caverns under Ground, and the Channels of the Rivers in the Surface, are as the Arteries and Veins, by which this Blood circulates, and where its *Apertures*, and places of breaking-forth are, there are the Springs and Fountains, which reſemble the Orifices upon the pricking or opening of a Vein by Phlebotomy.

And whereas the Sea is ſalt, and many Fountains freſh; this account is given, That God at firſt made all the Waters ſweet and freſh, and thoſe vaſt ſtores treaſured up in the Bowels of the Earth retain thoſe their primitive Qualities; tho in great Wiſdom, he after made the Sea ſalt, to prevent.



vent its Putrefaction by Stagnation; and to make it fitter for the Nourishment of living Creatures in it, and more commodious for Navigation, the strength of the salt Water bearing those Vessels of Burden, which were it fresh, would sink to the bottom with their own weight: an Egg will swim in strong Brine.

And for the Sea-Water, which passes out, as aforesaid, the fixed Salt is strained off by Percollation: and the volatil Salt, partly by Evaporation by the subterraneous Fires, and partly by mixing with the sweet Waters in the bowels of the Earth, as also of those made of transmuted Air and Vapours; and farther by Accession of Rain which soaks in, and dissolved Snows which mingle with it, it becomes lympid, sweet, and wholesome.

And by passing through different Soils or Minerals, as Gold, Silver, Antimony, Copper, Lead, Tin, and Iron, Vitriol, Nitre, Sulphur, Allom, and God only knows how many more,



more, it is impregnated by them, imbibes their Properties and Vertues; besides what useful Qualities God may in his kind Providence infuse into them and communicate immediately, to render them useful and beneficial to Mankind: of which no account can be given, but the goodness of him, who doth what ever he pleaseth in Heaven, in Earth, and *all deep places*, and worketh all things according to his own good Pleasure.

But to sum up and reduce to order, this more lax Discourse, I will lay down these following Propositions.

1. 'Tis demonstrable by Scripture, that God made the Fountains.

2. He made them not as a necessary, but a voluntary Agent: they are not the product of his Nature, but his Will.

3. The Knowledg we have of the Origine of them as to their second and immediate causes, is not certain  
and



and demonstrative, but only probable and conjectural.

4. 'Tis probable some are made, and others are encreas'd by Transmutation, or change of grosser and moister Air and Vapours into Water.

5. 'Tis very probable, that the wise Builder of Universal Nature hath so dispos'd and fashioned the whole System of this Terraqueous Globe, that there are in it, as it were Furnaces of subterraneous Fires: and vast hollow Caves and winding Meanders, not unlike to natural Stills, and Alymbecks, and Retorts, which turn salt Waters into Vapours, and then change both those Vapours, and others suckt into the Chinks and Caverns of the Earth, from the ambient Air and Mists, into sweet and wholesome Waters.

6. 'Tis possible that some Springs arise, or at least may be augmented (such as are vulgarly call'd Land-springs) from Rains and dissolved Snows, soaking into, and reserved in the prepared void Places or Caverns  
of



of the Earth, which fail and dry up in the times of Drought.

7. 'Tis of all Opinions most probable, that the principal Fountains have their Origen from the Sea, and great Abyſs, or huge ſtore and treaſury of Waters, made and reſerved in the deep Cellars of the Earth, for that very end and purpoſe.

8. 'Tis very likely that the Fountain-Waters receive their ſeveral uſeful Qualities from the various Soils and Minerals through which they glide and imbibe, and are impregnated by their different Properties, while they are percollated and ſtrained through them; and become beneficial for Bathing or Potation, outward or inward Application.

9. 'Tis probable that beſides the ſecond Cauſes, God makes uſe of (at leaſt ſo far as any Philoſophy hitherto hath, or can give a full and ſatisfactory account) God doth impreſs upon them and communicate to them immediately, many of thoſe uſeful Qualities, by which they become  
fo



so beneneficial to Mankind.

10. Lastly; whatever second Causes they proceed from, or are rendred fit to be helpful and healthful by, that is no prejudice to the main Truth, that God makes them; nor derogates ought from the Glory that is due to him for the making of them, whether we consider them as ordinary Fountains for common use, or extraordinary for Health and Cure of Distempers.

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S E R M.



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## S E R M O N II.

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R E V. 14. 7.

—— *Worship him that made the  
Fountains of Waters.*

**L** E D by the Authority of our Lord's Example, whose Sermons mostly were occasional, preach'd upon visible Texts, I singled out these Words, as not unsuitable to this Assembly, the Centre of which are the adjoyning Wells.

In the handling of them I reduced all I design'd to speak, unto this easy Method. To inquire,

1. What is the sole Object, adequate Reason, and right Notion of Religious Worship?

2. Who



2. Who made the Fountains, and in a short Digression how he made them.

3. Why the Angel propounds him to be worship'd under that Notion, Maker of the Fountains; and how it may appear that this is a good and sufficient Reason to oblige us to it.

4. To draw practical Inferences from the whole, proper to us at this Time and Place.

The two former I have finish'd, and sum'd up the philosophick part of my Discourse, of the Origine of Fountains, in ten Propositions: To which Discourse my Subject almost necessitated me. For as it had been a fault to have affected it, and prest and drag'd it in reluctantly, so had it been blame-worthy to have refus'd the Service it so freely and so fairly offered us, to assist us in our main Hypothesis.

'Twas an Observation worthy that great Mans Wisdom who first made it, I mean the wise Lord *Verulam*.

That



That a smattering in Philosophy disposes to Atheism, but a deeper search into it, and knowledg of it, makes a good Divine, and a better Christian.

We have a common saying; *Ubi desinit Philosophus, ibi incipit Theologus*: what Philosophy begins, Divinity finisheth. I shall therefore now proceed to entertain you as becomes a Divine and Preacher, in answering the third inquiry, begging only those Allowances which are but equal to be given to one, the obscurity of whose Station can hardly avoid contracting an habit of flat Expression, and lower Notion.

I haste to the third and last Enquiry, Why the Angel propounds him to be worship'd under this Notion, *Maker of the Fountains*? And how it may appear, that this is a good and sufficient Reason, to oblige us to it?

We may conceive a double Reason of it.

I. To



I. To obviate the Superstition and Idolatry of the World, which was used to worship the Fountains themselves.

All parts of the Creation were abus'd to Idolatry, especially what appear'd most glorious, and was found most beneficial: As the Heavens and their Host, the Sun, Moon, and Stars for their Beauty and Influences, under the Names of *Jupiter*, *Apollo*, *Juno*, *Diana*, &c. by the *Romans*; and of *Baal*, and *Astaroth*, &c. by the Eastern Nations: so the Earth for its Fruitfulness, by the Name of *Ceres* and *Tellus*: And the Waters almost as much as any part of the World. The Sea for its vastness by the Name of *Neptune*, and the Rivers and Fountains, for the many benefits they yielded, for the perennity and constancy of their flowing, which seem'd to resemble an eternal being, and for the cool and shady places, in which they mostly were, which struck an awe, and represented some kind of Sacredness. Thus they had their *Aquatick* Goddesses



deities and Nymphs, their *Naiades*, which they supposed to dwell in them, or preside over them.

Now as 'twas usual to obviate the worship of the Host of Heaven, by directing to worship him that made the Heavens, and debasing the Gods that made them not: *The Gods which did not make the Heavens, shall be destroy'd from under the Heavens*, Jer. 10.

11. Which Verse was written in the *Chaldee* Tongue, that the *Babylonians* might understand it, tho all the rest of the Book be written in the *Hebrew* Language: So to convince them of the evil of worshipping the Fountains, and divert them from it, he calls them to worship him that made them.

And we may see the more evident need of it, if we consider of how large a spread, this Superstition was, and how deep root it had taken: for there being so many *Miranda*, and so great *Beneficia*; so many stupendous and unaccountable natural Wonders, and so many Advantages accruing



cruing to Men from Fountains of so various kinds: we need not be surprized at it, that they who worshipped every thing, that was either very extraordinary, or very beneficial to their Life or Health, should idolize them. And this continued so long, and the World was so pertinacious in it, that the Fathers of the Primitive Church, were forc'd to preach and write most instantly and severely against it. To name but one. *St. Aug. Sermon. de Temp. 241. de Auguriis. Nec ad Arbores debent Christiani vota reddere, nec ad Fontem orare, si se volunt per gratiam Dei de aeterno supplicio liberari; Christians ought neither to pay Vows to Trees, nor pray at or to the Wells, if by the Grace of God they would be freed from Eternal Punishment. And a little after, Contestor vos coram Deo & Angelis ejus ac de Nuncio, ut nec ad illa diabolica Convivia, quæ aut ad fanum, ad Fontesq; aut ad aliquas Arbores fiant, veniatis; I adjure ye before God and his Angels, that ye come not to those Diabolical Feasts which*



which are made at Fountains and certain Trees.

And how many Superstitions have been us'd almost, if not wholly to this very day, about Fountains, and the supposed tutelar Guardians of them, is not unknown to many, as might be instanced in the imaginary *St. Richard* at the salt Wells in *Worcester-shire*, and many others elsewhere.

Now to obviate these evil Practices, saith this preaching Angel, worship not the Wells or Fountains, or any supposed tutelary Deities, or Dæmons residing in them, or presiding over them; but him that made them, and alone can bless them. Idolize not the likeness of any thing that is in the Waters under the Earth, nor the Virtues of those Waters, nor the faint Resemblance there seems to be of an eternal Being in their Perennity, nor any thing in them, or in any other Being which is made, but him that is the Maker of them, and the great Creator and Preserver of all



all things else ; for *nil factum adorandum*, God made nothing to be worshipt'd, and nothing must be worshipt'd that is made.

2. But the second, and more positive Reason why he directs us to worship him that made the Fountains, is, because the making of them is a signal proof that he is the true God, and witness those Perfections to be in him, for which he is truly adorable, and a meet Object, capable and worthy of Religious Adoration.

I before suggested, that whatever Work of Nature or of Grace, manifests the Author of it to be indued with infinite Perfections, or that he is a Being absolutely and infinitely perfect, is a good and sufficient Reason for the worshipping of him.

Now not to enquire into all, or more than the signal Trinity of Attributes, infinite Power, infinite Wisdom, infinite Goodness; if the making of the Fountains be a valid and convincing Argument, that he who made them hath all these, is infinitely powerful,  
wise



wise and good, nay hath but any of them, (supposing that they might be parted) is perfect in Power only, or in Wisdom, or in Goodness; that alone were a good Argument, both that he might and ought to be worshipped.

Not that the making of the Fountains proves no more: for I think it is easy to evince, that their Maker is an Eternal Being, from *Prov. 8.* and Eternal is truly an incommunicable Attribute, and a most adorable Perfection. And more might be named, but we may safely confine our selves to the three afore specified; and if the making of them proves him to be all, or any of these, he must be worship'd that is such, because he is such. I will touch them in order.

First; The making the Fountains proves him infinitely powerful, which we may consider in several respects.

1. 'Tis a Work, and a Demonstration of Almighty Power, to produce out of nothing that which was not,

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to



to give that a Being which had none before. Now *there was a time when*, or rather before time it self was, *there were no Fountains abounding with Water*; Prov. 8. 24. And his Almighty *Fiat* gave them Being, who spake the Word, and they were made; who commanded and they were brought forth. By the Word of the Lord were the Waters made, and all the kinds and regions of them by the breath of his Mouth; and the first of *Genesis* makes at least as signal, and more repeated mention of the Waters, the Deep, the Seas, then of Heaven and Earth.

Some think that the first matter, the Platonists *υλη*, the Scriptures *Tohu* and *Bohu*, which we call the *Chaos*, was a watery fluid Mass. Mr. *Burnet's* Theory of the Earth is chiefly built upon this Hypothesis. And the great Abyss, or *Barathron*, was the first or oldest of God's Works of Power; and the Issues and Outlets thereof, are the Effects of the same Power, and they are those we call  
the



the Fountains of the great Deep :  
so that the making them, evidences  
him to be an Almighty Creator.

2. Having made and shut up those  
vast Stores and Treasuries of Water,  
'tis a proof of his Power to unlock and  
unbar those mighty Rocks and Moun-  
tains which imprisoned and shut them  
in, and give them vent and passage,  
and open the very Womb of the  
Earth and Nature, that they may  
issue out. The Jews have a saying,  
that God keeps three Keys in his own  
Hand, the Key of the Womb, the  
Key of the Grave, and the Key of the  
Barn : signifying thereby, that Fruit-  
fulness or Barrenness, Life and Death,  
Plenty and Scarcity, depend imme-  
diately on him, and are great Evi-  
dences of his Power ; and certainly  
it is no less to have the Key of the  
great Abyss. 'Tis one of the most  
majestick Proofs of the Divine Power,  
which God himself insists upon, *Job*  
*38.8,11. To shut up the Sea with doors,*  
*and to say to it, Hither shalt thou go and*  
*no further, and here shall thy proud Wave*



*stop themselves.* And 'tis no less Power which cleaves the mighty Rocks to let it out, than to bridle its swelling Surges, by the smallest Sand.

3. He makes new, sudden extraordinary Fountains when he pleases, without and beyond any natural apparent Causes strikes the flinty Rock, and Waters gush forth more readily than Sparks or Fire would by striking it with Steel. He must certainly be the Almighty Lord of Nature who can unhinge it, and change its Laws when ever he pleases, turning the dry Ground into Water-springs.

4. As the making Heaven and Earth prove his Omnipotence, for 'tis upon that account we profess in our Creed to believe him Almighty, *I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of Heaven and Earth, &c.* No less doth the making of the Sea and Fountains prove the same; for they are rank'd in the same Series in this very Text.

5. 'Tis a mighty proof of his Power to continue them, to supply and



and feed them for so many Ages, that they die not, but are justly stiled *living Waters*. Preservation is a continued Creation.

Secondly; The making of the Fountains is a proof of his Wisdom: as may appear,

1. In his contriving and building the whole System of universal Nature so admirably, so commodiously, every piece thereof agreeing so excellently with all the others, that they are mutually subservient. This harmonious Fabrick, this exact Composition of the whole, is a Work of that deep, that infinite and adorable Wisdom: that it is an unanswerable Argument for an intelligent Providence. And may put to shame and to silence all the Atheists, and Semi-Atheists in the World. And tho I confess 'tis more usual to instance in the Heavens, as being more visible, and to argue from the Scituation, Motion and Position of the Sun, Moon and Stars towards the Earth, to render their In-



fluences more propitious, that the whole may be fruitful, and a commodious Habitation, that all may in good degree injoy their Comfort and their Blessing, and none be wholly depriv'd or destitute, nor scorch'd or spoiled by them. Yet with the like advantage might we argue from the Sea and Fountains; the spreading and diffusing of which through so many hidden Veins within the Earth, and dislodging themselves in so many commodious places, and flowing in so many chrystal, cooling, healthful Streams, both greatly beautifies and garnisheth the Earth, and renders it fertile and delightful for benefit of Man and Beasts.

2. As they are so contrived, that all the *Phænomena* about them, are unaccountable, and the wisest and most inquisitive Indigaters, are at a loss, and cannot solve them, and find out the Reasons of them: but must cry out in admiration of their Maker, *his Wisdom is unsearchable, and* (in this, as much as in any Works of Na-



Nature) *past finding out*. They must confess themselves posed, and say with *David*, *Such Knowledge is too wonderful for me, 'tis high, 'tis deep, I cannot attain to it.* Psal. 139. 6. And with the indefatigable *Alstedius*, not be ashamed to say, the best answer to the Enquiries about them, is by that word of Modesty, *Nescio*, I cannot tell; and with the great Philosopher, dying, to *Euripus*, *Non capio te*, I cannot comprehend thee.

3. There appeareth great Wisdom in cutting out their Channels, spreading their Veins, proportioning their Depth, and Breadth, and Length, that they be not too rapid or too slow, that by a longer Tract they may be duly percolated, refin'd, concocted, imbued, and impregnated sufficiently, and not excessively, with the virtues of the Mineral Soils, that make them useful. How wise is he who proportions all these, and an hundred more, in Number, Weight, and Measure?



4. In the admirable and almost infinite variety, and sorts, and kinds of them. A Poet would call them, *Lusus naturæ lascivientis*, and tell you that wanton Nature never sported it self more gaily, then in the various sorts and shapes of Springs and Fountains; and in their strange and stupendous Properties; some ebbing and flowing as the Sea; some hot to seething, others as cold to freezing: some both, in every twenty four hours, hot in the Night, cold in the Day; some petrifying all that's put into them, others changing white the Hairs scattered on them, and of them who drink them: Some diuretick, some purging; some molifying, other consolidating; some salt, some sweet; some acid, some insipid; some limpid, others thick; some harsh, others soft, smooth, oily, &c. In a word, the Sea hath not so many kinds of Fish, nor the Earth so many sorts of Beasts, or Fruits, nor the Air such diversity of Fowls and Birds, as there are variety of Springs and Foun-



Fountains. O Lord, how manifold are these Works of thine! in Wisdom hast thou made them all; the Earth is full of thy Goodness.

Thirdly; This, *his Goodness*, is the last of God's adorable Perfections, which bubbles up, yea flows exuberantly upon us, in the Fountains which he makes. And if any be so senseless as to ask me, how the making of the Fountains prove him to be good? It might be sufficient to answer such a Question, by asking of another, *viz.* Art thou not ashamed to ask it? or canst thou move it without blushing?

But to clear it; I mean by *his Goodness*, his Beneficence, or doing Good. *Thou art good, and dost good*, saith David unto God, *Psal.* 119. 68. He therefore doth good because he is good: But he is thereby known to be good, because he doth good; and every Benefit he bestows upon his Creatures, witness him to be a good God. *Acts* 14. 17. how do the Wells



and Fountains proclaim him to be so, as *David*, *Psal.* 93. 3. of the *Floods*, we may say, *The Springs, O Lord, have lifted up their Voice, the Springs lift up their Voice to shout forth the Goodness of their Maker, yea, they clap their Hands, (Psal. 98. 8.)* applaudingly, to celebrate his Praises.

When grateful *David* had said, *Psal.* 33. 5. *The Earth is full of the Goodness of the Lord*, he proves it, *vers.* 7. *because he layeth up the Depth in Store-houses*, thereby to feed the Fountains. When *Moses*, speaking of the promis'd Land, saith to the Israelites, *The Lord thy God bringeth thee into a good Land*. The Character he gives of that Goodness, is, that 'twas a *Land of Brooks of Water, of Fountains and Depths, that spring out of the Valleys and Hills*.

And God is said to open his good Treasure, the Treasures of his Goodness, *Dent.* 28. 12. *When he gives Rain from above*, and so when he gives Fountains from beneath.

Water



Water is a great Mercy in the common use of it, the World could not continue or subsist without it; and unspeakably sweet and kind is that Clemency of God that makes and gives it. It is impossible to reckon up how many Benefits it yields us, or to declare how great that Godness is by which we do enjoy it; 'tis a Work fitter for our Admiration, then our Reckoning; for Rhetorick than Arithmetick. And Spring-water is the best of Waters, the Life, the Spirits, the Quintessence of that beneficial Element, the most pure, pleasant, wholesome, lasting, and every way most excellent and valuable.

And because ungrateful, we are more prone to make a right Judgment of the worth of our Mercies, by their Wants, than their Injoyments, consider how deplorable and sad the want of Water is, and we shall soon know how good it is to have it; and thence learn to acknowledge how good he is that gives it.

But



But if common Waters be so great a Blessing, then extraordinary Springs are no common Mercies. And God is to be confessed very good for making such mollifying Baths, God's own *Bethesda's* and *Siloam* pools; which seem attended constantly with some good Angel, and not only visited at rare and seldom Seasons. Purging-Springs, absterging Wells, opening Obstructions, sweetning the Blood, thinning tough viscous Humours, preventing some, and grappling with and conquering other most obstinate and chronical Distempers, which were *opprobria Medicorum*, baffled the best experienced, the eldest, the first-born Sons of *Apollo* and *Æsculapius*: which *Leviathan*-like, esteem'd the choicest Recipes, the keenest Shafts of *Galen* or *Hippocrates*, *Paracelsus* or *Vanhelmont*, but as Straw or rotten Wood. Such are these Wells, God hath enrich'd this barren Country with, which we come hither to make use of, and to wait upon his Providence in the using of them.

How



How exuberantly doth God's Goodness flow in these? O that with becoming Gratitude, and Love we could with a spiritual Gust relish and taste it in every Glas we drink! These are his Laboratories, who stiles himself *Jehova Rophi*, *Exod. 15. 26.* *I am the Lord that healeth thee*; and whom *David* (*Psal. 103. 3.*) exhorts us to bless *for healing all our Diseases*. These are Alimbecks, where Almighty Goodness draws the Tinctures and the Extracts, prepares the Spirits, makes the Infusion, mixes the healthful Potions. And how unseemly is it to open our Lips to drink them in, and not to open them again, to confess his Goodness, and give out due Praises unto him that made them!

3. His *Goodness* appears in discovering the Vertues of such Waters. How many useful things are lost for want of being known? Divine Clemency is seldom single, content with one Act; 'twas one Mercy to make them what they are; a second to let  
us



us know what he had made them ; and thirdly, to vouchsafe us Liberty and Opportunity to use them.

4. 'Tis great *Goodness* in God to make them useful and beneficial, either the common or the mineral Springs. Man lives not by Bread only, but by the Word which proceedeth out of God's Mouth. Dead things cannot minister to our Lives, but by the blessing of the living God ; neither can Physick prepar'd by Nature or by Art, heal or help us without the concurrent Influence of him, who immediately makes one, and must as immediately bless both.

5. Lastly ; Let me add one further Manifestation of his *Goodness* in making the Fountains, which may sensibly affect those who are concern'd, how little soever it may signify to others. *David* justly ascribes it to the Goodness of God to provide for the Poor ; *Thou, Lord, hast of thy Goodness provided for the Poor.* How many poor Families doth God provide for by the Wells ! They are truly



truly Silver Streams, they feed the Hungry, and cloath the Naked, enrich the Country, yield a plentiful Crop, and large Harvest to them who neither plow nor sow. *O that Men would praise the Lord for this Goodness, and for his wonderful Works to the Children of Men!*

Thus have I shew'd you why we are most justly call'd upon to worship him that made the Fountains of Waters: Because in his making of them, there is a glorious discovery of many adorable Perfections, and amongst the rest, his Almighty Power, his unsearchable Wisdom, and his inexhaustible Goodness. All which not only allow and give leave, but oblige and give good reason, why we should worship him with all the Zeal and Love and Fervor that we can.

Which Consideration leads me to the fourth and last thing propounded in the beginning of this Discourse, that is, To draw practical Inferences from the whole, and make Improvement



ment of it, proper to us at this Place and Time.

If we must worship him that made the Fountains, that is, honour, love, fear, serve him, pray to him, and give him Thanks, because he made them, and discovers so many adorable Perfections to be in him by his making of them: Then let us briefly inquire,

1. What Prohibitions.

2. What positive Duties flow from hence.

God's Word is a two-edged Sword, *utrinque acutus*, it cuts on both sides. When it enjoyns a Duty, it prohibits what is contrary; and when it prohibits Sin, it enjoyns the Good, which is contrary to the Evil it forbids.

If therefore we must worship him that made the Fountains: Then,

1. We must not neglect him.

2. Not do any thing that is contrary to his Worship.

1. Let



I. Let us not neglect, forget, or leave out him that made them, gave them their Virtues, and must bless them, if they do us good. Let us not drink as the Beasts of the Earth, which all the while they drink, look only down upon the Waters they are drinking of; but as the Birds of Heaven, which sip and look upward. When we drink we lift up our Heads, 'tis a necessary Posture: make a virtue of this necessity; and when you lift up your Heads in drinking, lift up your Eyes, your Hearts to God, in some devout Ejaculations, in some spiritual Hallelujahs.

Good Lord vouchsafe to bless these Waters both to me, and to all that drink them; O thou that madest the Fountains, give me cause, and give me an Heart to praise thee for the making of them. *O ye Wells, bless ye the Lord, praise him, and magnify him for ever! who forgiveth all thy Sins, and healeth all thy Diseases.* Glory be to thee, O God, whose Power, Wisdom, Goodness these Wells proclaim; thou gavest



vest them their Virtues, thou continuest their flowing, thou hast made them helpful to me and many others; O continue forth thy Loving-kindness to us, and grant us all thy Grace to spend the Health we wait upon thee for, in the Service of the Giver.

2. Secondly; If we must worship him that made these Fountains, then let us do nothing that's contrary to it, or misbecoming those that worship him.

1. In general: Provoke him not in any kind to Jealousy, lest they become as the Waters of Jealousy to the guilty Woman, *Numb. 5. 27. a Curse, and cause the Belly to swell, and Thigh to rot.* God hath us here at our Good-behaviour. 'Twas no small Aggravation of the *Israelites* Sin, that they provoked God at the Sea, even at the red Sea, *Psal. 106. 7.* where he signaliz'd his Mercy, by the Waters covering their Enemies, that there was not any of them left, *vers. 11.* Your Distempers are your Enemies; if



if you expect to have them drown'd, or wash'd away, provoke him not at the Wells, even at *Tunbridg-Wells*, where you expect his Help for your Cure; render them not as the Waters of *Meribah*.

I am neither of so stoical a Temper, morose Humour, or affected Conversation, as to censure other Mens Liberties, or to refuse to take my part in innocent Divertisements, and healthful Recreations. Take your Pleasures in God's Name. But love not your Pleasures more than God: neither let your Pleasures be ungodly, nor the pursuit of your Bodies Health run you into Souls Sickness. Be merry, but withal be wise. Divert your selves, but turn not out of God's way: use your Liberties, but abuse them not, use them not unlawfully: Provide for your Satisfaction; always provided, you make not Provision for the Flesh to fulfil its Lusts.

In a word, so walk, so bowl, so dance, so play, that you stake not  
your



your Souls, nor by any of these, or other Pastimes, rob your selves of time to pray to, or to praise that God, *who made those Wells*, which are the Centre of this great Confluence: or may render you asham'd, afraid, or otherwise unfit, to bow your Knees, or lift up your Faces, Hands or Hearts unto his holy Habitation; and that neither the Foams of impure Lusts, nor the Froth of less criminal Vanities, may pollute or damp the Altar, nor render unfavoury the Incense of your Evening Sacrifice. *Tertullian* hath left a brave and noble Character of the Primitive Christians, worthy our Imitation, yea our Ambition. *That they so ate, so drank, so traded, so conversed in the day, as became those who remembred that they were to pray ere they slept at Night.* O that I could always do so. And I can wish you nothing better, tho I love you as my self.

2. Secondly, and more particularly. Look upon these Wells as consecrated and made sacred by an extraor-

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traordinary Presence of the God of Nature, in and with them; and by the helpful Virtues, and healing Qualities, that he that makes the Fountains, hath endu'd them with. And so *procul procul esto prophani.*

After the Command which enjoins God's Worship, follows that which so severely forbids the taking of his Name in vain. What doth this signify less, then that in vain we worship him, if we cease not to take his Name in vain?

I beseech you therefore give me leave, with that Zeal which becomes my Sacerdotal Character, and yet with that Modesty, which knows my own meanness in that Sacred Order, to beseech you to be tender of the Honour of the Name of God.

I hope I understand the difference betwixt reprovng and reproaching; and tho we are allowed and commanded to reprove some Sinners sharply, cuttingly, as the Greek Word signifies, yet to add reproachful Reflections to needful Reproofs, would  
be



be as if a Chirurgion should inve-  
nom the point of his Lancet, or Edge  
of his Incision-knife; and thereby  
add a throbbing Anguish, a vexing  
Torment, and deadly Inflammation,  
to the unavoidable, but safe and be-  
neficial smart, to which the Patient  
would be perswaded to submit with  
Willingness, in hope of Cure.

I can sincerely say, I honour your  
Persons, and love your Souls, and  
would not displease you, lest I there-  
by hinder your profiting by my In-  
treaties or Advice.

I beseech you therefore, yea I a-  
gain and again beseech you, let not  
the most guilty, the most criminal  
Offender think himself reproach'd,  
while I reprove the Sin of common  
Swearing, the too frequent noise of  
which, greatly abates the innocent  
Pleasures of this Place and Season.  
'Tis the direct *Antithesis* to the Wor-  
ship we are required to give Him  
that made the Fountains; 'tis a cast-  
ing off his Fear, 'tis a trampling his  
Glory under foot; 'tis a rendring his  
great,



great, his holy, his adorable Name,  
vile and contemptible, cheap and base,  
a low, a common thing.

I hope I may without Offence  
profess, that I cannot but pity the  
Errors of their Education, who e-  
steem it a piece of good Breeding to  
blaspheme the Name of God, and  
account it the most ornamental and  
graceful Accomplishment of their  
Language, with a graceless Fool-har-  
diness to dare him to his Face to damn  
them. If you believe there is a God,  
(and who hath the Patience to be  
esteem'd an Atheist?) and that he is  
a God indeed, a Being absolutely  
perfect, infinitely great and good,  
omniscient, holy, just and true, you  
may take his word, *He will not hold  
him guiltless that takes his Name in  
vain.* And I assure you 'tis much  
wiser and safer to believe in time,  
then to find to Eternity, how fearful  
a thing it is to fall into the Hands of  
the everlasting God.

As for my self, (and I am confi-  
dent in this, I speak the joint Sense  
of



of my Brethren in the same sacred Order) I speak it freely: He defecrates his Sacerdotal Character, and is unworthy to be a Priest in our holy Church, who is so unfaithful and unkind, as not to mind them of their Failings, who in this kind sin through Inadvertency and Weakness, or so cowardly, as through want of Zeal for God, and love to his Brother, dares not admonish them, who thus sin in an affected Contempt of God and Religion. It was the custom of the Jews, to rend their Garments when they heard the Name of the holy blessed God blasphemed. And for us of the Clergy, we deserve no pity, if it rend not our Hearts to hear the sacred Name of God so vilely rent in pieces, tho our Gowns were rent from off our Backs.

But I hasten to the positive Inferences.

I. If we must worship Him that made the Fountains: Then by parity of Reason, let us learn to inforce upon our selves, a due, an awful Sense of



of God: from every Creature, in the making of which he hath manifested forth his glorious, his adorable Perfections; God's Name is written on them all; *Præsentemq; Deum quælibet herba refert.*

This Universe is a great Volume, and every Creature is a Letter in it; as in their orderly Conjunction, you may spell and read his adorable Excellencies compleatly and at large, so every single Letter hath its Signification and Sound. But as in the Alphabet, some are Vowels, sound singly, and give a sound to others: so in the Book of Nature, some of God's Works are Vowels, very vocal; such as the Heaven, the Earth, the Sea and the Fountains; worship him, love and admire him in the least: for God is *Magnus in minimis*, great in the least that he hath made: *Digitus Dei* may be seen in them. But,

2. Worship him more signally for making the Fountains. *Psal. 104. 1. David* stirs up himself, *Bless the Lord*



O my Soul: and then he gives the Reasons why, and a principal one is laid down *Vers. 10. Because he sends the Springs into the Valleys, Psal. 95.* which the Church hath wisely chosen as a Preface to our Publick Worship every Morning, *Vers. 1. O come let us sing unto the Lord, let us heartily rejoice in the Strength of our Salvation;* *Vers. 4. Because in his Hands are the deep places of the Earth;* *Vers. 5. The Sea is his, and he made it, and the Fountains of it.* *Vers. 6. O come, let us therefore worship and fall down before his Foot-stool.*

3. Then him that made the extraordinary Fountains for Medicine, for Health: shall so much Power, Wisdom, Goodness shine forth in them, and we be blind and not observe them? or dumb, and not express a deep and grateful sense of them? O that a blessed God would super-add one healing Vertue more unto them, a Power to cure the Indevotion of our too little thankful Hearts! Shall they be counted worthy so great  
Ex-



Expence, of Travel, Time and Money, and not be worthy our thankful Praises, Love and Service? O thou that madest these Wells, and hast opened the flinty Rocks, so that Streams have issued out, open our stony Hearts, that sweetest Streams of Love, of Praise and Adoration, may flow from thence, and never be dried up!

4. If he must be worship'd that made the Fountains in the Fields and Desarts, how much more he that made those in the Garden, in the Paradise of God, I mean his Church. We call that sacred Vessel, where the Covenant of Christianity was seal'd 'twixt God and us, *the Font*. He makes the other as the God of Nature; but the Fountain of our Baptism is signally made by him, as the God of Grace. 'Twas he that sent *St. John Baptist* to baptize with Water, *John* 1. 33.

And his blessed Son, the *holy Jesus*, after he was risen from the Dead, and entred into his state of Exaltation,



gave Commission and Command to his Disciples to *baptize all Nations in the Name of the Father, Son, and Holy-Ghost!*

Our Baptism is a most solemn Primitive Act of Worship, and Primitive Acts are ingaging Acts. 'Tis as the boaring of our Ear at the door-post of God's House, to shew that we must serve him for ever. We therein receive the mark of the Lamb of God on our Fore-heads, and on our Right-hands; 'tis the very Badg and Cognizance of the Worshippers of the true God, through Jesus Christ, by the Holy Ghost, in all whose Names we receive it, and to whose Service we are consecrated by it: we thereby oblige our selves to his Worship both in the largest and strictest Notions, to his entire Service in universal unreserved Obedience, and all inward and external Acts of Adoration, both in Soul and Body. And by how much the Privileges of Baptism are more and greater, and the Obligations of it stronger and more indi-



indispensable; so much more zealously should we worship him that made it for us, and hath admitted us unto it.

Few Aggravations enhance and heighten the guilt and provocation of our Sins so much, as that they are the Sins of baptized ones: this dyes them of a deeper Purple than those of *Tyre* and *Sidon*, *Sodom* and *Gomorrhah*.

These mineral Waters may, by many things put to them, lose both their Taste and Virtue, in the Chymist Phrase be *precipitated*, that tho they are drunk, they neither heal nor help. Every deliberate and wilful Sin defecrates the Waters, which were consecrated to the mystical washing away of Sin: Precipitates baptismal Waters, that their Virtue subsides and sinks, to the bottom of the Font, that tho they still may wet, they will not wash; though they may be sprinkled, they will not cleanse.



How unpardonable an Affront would it be to this honourable Company, if any should be so impudently rude or wicked, as to pollute or poison these Wells we come to drink of? What is it then to abuse that Blood of sprinkling, by which we were sanctified, and to do despite to that Spirit of Grace which overshadows these sacred Waters?

An involuntary innocent staining of the Font, hath branded an imperial Name in all succeeding Ages, *Leo Coproninus*. The casting of a dead Dog into a Well, which was the only supply for the Garrison which kept it, lost one of the strongest and most impregnable Forts, *Stetguard*. Our voluntary sinning after and against our Baptism, poisons the very Font, casts a dead Dog into the Well of Grace, nay, is an actual surrender into his Hands whom we have renounced, and should stand in defiance of for ever.

I beseech you, I adjure you therefore, worship that God which made  
the



the Font of your Baptism, by a sound believing of the good Promises he made to you, and making good the Promises you there made to him: for as there is no greater cause of the decay of Christian Piety, than the not understanding or forgetting our Baptismal Covenant, and the indispensable Obligation it brings us under, to Faith, Repentance, and unreserved new Obedience; so there is no Remedy more likely to retrieve its Honour, and to restore the power of it in the World, than a daily serious remembering of it, and hearty desire and study to live up to it.

5. If we must worship him, love, serve, adore him that made the Fountains, and made the Font; how much more him that made the Source and Spring of that very Fountain, that *Fountain opened for Sin and for Uncleanneſs*, Zech. 13. 1. the Blood, the Spirit of Christ?

When *Longinus*, as Tradition names him, with that accursed Spear pierced the Side and Heart of our



most blessed Lord, yet hanging on that more accursed Tree, forthwith there came out Blood and Water; *John 19. 34.* The Church hath always reckon'd these the vital Springs of the Health-giving Sacraments. Christ calls himself *the living Water*, *John 4.* and he calls the Spirit by the same Name, *John 7. 38, 39.* *He that believes in me, out of his Belly shall flow Rivers of living Water; this spake he of the Spirit.*

And 'tis agreeable to his Father's Language, *Psal. 44. 3.* *I will pour Water upon him that is thirsty, and Floods upon the dry Ground. I will pour my Spirit upon thy Seed,* *Isa. 44. 3.*

If the love of God in giving his Son be set forth so emphatically with an *εἰς τὸν*, *God so loved the World that he gave his only begotten Son*, so freely, so fully, so inconceivably, as no Tongue can express, as no Heart can conceive; with what Fervours of Love and Thankfulness should we receive it and return it?



6. Worship him that is not only the Maker of the Fountains, but the very Fountain of all things; *ὁ ὢν, the Fountain of living Waters*: Jer. 2. 13. The Fountain of our Being, *in whom we live, and move, and have our Being*; and for whom, as well as by whom, we were all made. God made us all to worship himself: for he made the World to manifest his Glory, that he might be known to be, and to be such as indeed he is, and have the Glory of being such; and to give him that Glory (which is peculiar to intelligent Natures) is properly to worship him.

And the Fountain of all our Temporal, Spiritual, and Eternal Mercies present, future, all we have, and all we hope for.

Nay, the Fountain of the very Deity, as the Schools call God the Father, *Fontem Dietatis*, who communicates the Divine Nature to the Son and Holy Ghost, as Light and Heat flow from the Body of the Sun, tho they abide in it, and be one with it.



Lastly ; If all must worship him that made the Fountains ; Then they especially who have built him an House for his Worship at these famous Fountains : And it will be little better then a mocking of him, to erect him an House for his Worship, and to neglect that Worship for which it was erected.

And tho I am very far from imposing Laws, or prescribing Rules to this Honourable Assembly ; yet give me leave with that modest freedom which becomes my Office, to remind you of somewhat at least very unseemly, and which I charitably hope, proceeds solely or chiefly from want of Consideration.

You exactly understand all the Punctilio's of Honour, all the Measures of what is Decent, Just and Fit. Let me therefore appeal to you what Respect, what Deference is due to God, who is, and calls himself a Great King. How comely it would be, (or rather how uncomely 'tis to do the contrary ) not to continue  
your



your Gaming upon the very spot, in time of Publick Prayer. I beseech you, if you will not joyn with us in our solemn Worship, yet modestly forbear to affront it, and Him to whom we pay it.

Give me leave to conclude with one more humble Motion. 'Tis an express Branch of Divine Worship to build God an House, 'twill be no less to indow it now 'tis built. An easy Liberality from New-comers, who find a Chappel ready prepar'd by our Charge and Care, (not excluding the pious Charity of those who have already given to its building) may settle a decent Maintenance for an Able Minister, constantly to officiate in it, and preach to the Neighbouring Inhabitants all the Year.

'Tis a certainly desolate place in the depth of Winter, still, notwithstanding the many fair Houses which are lately built. And the badness of the Ways, and distance of the Churches, I fear, occasions in many, too great



great a neglect of God's Worship, and their own Souls. Had they an Able Minister to reside constantly among them, the Wo of dwelling in this *Mesech* would be much abated, and these Deserts would become a *Mount Sion*, and these Tents of *Kedar* like the Curtains of *Solomon*, an Emblem of *Jerusalem*.

We of the Clergy, who come hither for preservation, or recovery of Health, give you our Labors freely, tho we have no cause to be asham'd of what we gave to the Erection of the Place we labour in. And you may the better bear with us, while in the behalf of them that serve us here, we plead with you to leave a Blessing behind you, That as God hath endow'd these Wells with lasting Streams and Virtues, you would endow this House built to his Name so near them, that the Waters of the Sanctuary may flow from hence, with a constant Perennity, like to the Waters of these Wells, and with an Healthfulness to the Souls of those that dwell here, -  
which



which may equal, or exceed the Usefulness of the Waters to the Bodies of us Strangers, who come hither to drink them.

*And now, Oh thou most glorious Lord, who hast made the Fountains of Waters, and thereby manifested forth thy Almighty Power, thy unsearchable Wisdom, and inexhaustible Goodness, which render thee a most sutable Object of all possible Adoration, Love and Service; Accept we beseech thee, the Sacrifice of Thanksgiving and Praise, which we offer to thee from the Altar of an humble Heart, for making of these Fountains, and making known and continuing their useful Virtues, and for blessing them to any of us. And we further bless thy glorious Name, who art the Fountain of Living Waters, and in whom are all our Springs, for all the Streams of Mercy that flow from thee, especially for thy Son, and thy Spirit, thy Word, and thy Sacraments, and that sutable Portion of it we have now been made partakers of: Beseeching thee so*



to write in our Hearts by the Finger of thy Spirit, what we have heard with our outward Ears, that it may bring forth in us the Fruit of good Living, to the Glory of thy holy Name, the good Example of our fellow Christians, the present Comfort, and the eternal Salvation of our precious Souls, through Jesus Christ our dearest Lord: To whom with thy Majesty, and eternal Spirit, be rendred, as is most due, all Honour, Love, Thanksgiving, Praise and Adoration, now and for evermore. Amen.

FINIS.

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Devout Meditations of Cardinal  
*Bellarmino*, made English.

*Of the Consideration of the Waters,  
and chiefly of Fountains,*

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C H A P. I.

**T**HE Water holds the second place amongst the Elements of this World: and if that be rightly look'd upon, a step may be made of it to assist the Heart's Ascent to God. And if we will premise a general Consideration of Water, then draw out of the Fountains a special Ascent to God.

Water is moist and cold, and from hence it hath these five Properties:  
For, 1. It washeth and cleanseth  
away



away Spots and Defilements. 2. It quencheth Fire. 3. It cools and flakes the heat of Thirst. 4. It joyns into one many and different things. Lastly; So low as it descends, so high it will ascend again. All which are manifest Symbols and Foot-steps of that God who is the maker of all things.

1. Water washeth off bodily Stains: God washeth off those that are spiritual. *Thou shalt wash me, saith David, and I shall be whiter than Snow; Psal. 51. 7.* For altho Contrition, Sacraments, Priests, Alms-deeds, do wash away Sins, which are the Stains of the Heart: All these are but Instruments and Dispositions. He that is the Author of this washing, is God alone. *I, even I am he that blotteth out thy Transgressions, for mine own sake, saith God by Isaiah, Chap. 43. 25.* And therefore the Pharisees murmuring against Christ, said, *Who can forgive Sins but God only?* Luke 7. 49. And they were not mistaken in ascribing unto God only, the supreme Power.



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Power of forgiving Sins: But in that that they believ'd not Christ to be be God, and so blasphem'd, and spake Truth in the same breath.

Neither doth God only, like Water, wash away Spots, but will also be called by the Name of Water; *John 7. 38. He that believeth on me, as the Scripture hath said, out of his Belly shall flow Rivers of living Water. But this spake he of the Spirit which they that believe on him should receive: for the Holy Ghost was not yet given, because Jesus was not yet glorified.* Therefore the holy Spirit, which is very God, is living Water. And of this Water speaks *Ezekiel, Chap. 36. 25. I will sprinkle clean Water upon you, and ye shall be clean from all your Filthiness, and from your Idols will I cleanse you.* And because this celestial and uncreated Water far excels the Virtues of this terrestrial and created Water, we will take notice of three Differences betwixt the washing of created and uncreated Water.

First;



First; That which is created, washeth the Bodies Spots, but not all, for many it cannot get out, unless it be help'd by Soap and other Instruments: but uncreated Water washeth out thoroughly all kind of Spots: for in the fore-cited place 'tis said, *You shall be clean from all your Filthiness.*

Secondly; Created Water rarely washeth Spots so clean away, as to leave no Marks or Shadows of them: But uncreated Water washeth so, that what is washed with it, is whiter and fairer then it was before it was defiled. *Thou shalt wash me, saith David, and I shall be whiter than Snow.* And the Lord himself saith by *Isaiah, Chap. I. 18. Tho your Sins be as Scarlet, they shall be as white as Snow: tho they be red like Crimson, they shall be as Wooll.*

Lastly; Created Water washeth away natural Spots, which resist not him that washeth them: But uncreated Water washeth away voluntary Spots, which cannot be rinsed off, unless the Soul be willing, and spontaneously consent to him that rinseth



rinseth it. But so great and admirable is the Virtue of this Water, that it sweetly penetrates hearts of Stone, and is resisted by no hard Heart, because it makes it not to resist, as *St. Augustin* rightly observes, *Lib. de Præd. SS. cap. 8.*

Who can understand, O Lord, with how admirable Methods thou breathest Faith into the Hearts of the Unbelievers, and pourest Humility in the Hearts of the proud, and instillest Love into the Hearts of thy Enemies, that he who a little before breathing Threatnings and Slaughter, did persecute thee in thy Disciples, being suddenly chang'd, did willingly bear the Threats and Violences of the Persecutors for thee, and for thy Church! It is too much for me to search into thy Secrets, and I had rather know the efficacy of thy Grace by sweet Experience, than by search: and because I know this Water of thine, to be a voluntary Shower, design'd for thine own Heritage, as thy Prophet sings, therefore I most  
humbly



humbly and submissly beg, that I may be found in thine Inheritance, and it may please thy Grace to descend into the Earth of my Heart, that it continue not towards thee like Earth without Water, dry and barren, as 'tis of it self, being not sufficient so much as to think the least that's good. But let's us proceed.

## CHAP. II.

**W**ater quencheth Fire, and that heavenly Water, viz. the Grace of the holy Spirit, in an admirable way and manner, quencheth the Fire of carnal Lusts. 'Tis true, Fastings and corporal Mortifications do much avail to quench this Burning, but provided they be used as Instruments of the Grace of the Holy Ghost, otherwise of themselves alone they signifie but very little: For Love is the principal of the Affections and Passions of the Mind, that governs them all, and all obey it; Love will not be forc'd, and if it be  
stopt



stopt of one side, it will find Passage  
in another; Love fears nothing, dares  
all things, conquereth all things,  
thinks nothing hard or impossible to  
it self. Lastly; a lesser Love will  
yield to none, but to that Love that's  
greater and more mighty: so carnal  
Love, whether it pursue the Riches  
or Delights of the World, will only  
yield unto the Love of God. As soon  
as the Water of the holy Spirit begins  
to drop into the Heart of any Man,  
forthwith carnal Love begins to wax  
cold. Blessed *Augustine* may be  
our Witness, who being accustomed  
to indulge his Lust, and held it im-  
possible for him to live without a Fe-  
male Consort, yet when he began to  
taste the Grace of the holy Spirit,  
cry'd out in the ninth Book of his  
Confessions, *How sweet did it presently  
become to me, to want the Suavities of  
Trifles, and the loss of those that were  
my greatest Fear, now was my Joy to be  
rid off: for thou didst cast them out, who  
art thy self the true and highest Sweet-  
ness; thou didst cast them out, and didst  
thy*



*thy self enter in their stead, who art sweeter than all Pleasure, but not to Flesh and Blood; brighter than all Light, but more inward than any Secret; higher than all Honour, but not to the high-minded.*

## C H A P. III.

**F**urther; Water slakes the Thirst, and nothing but this heavenly Water can put an end to the various, most troublesome, and almost infinite desires of the Hearts of Men. So Truth it self, speaking to the Samaritan Woman, hath taught us, *John 4. 13. Whosoever drinketh of this Water, shall thirst again; but whosoever shall drink of the Water that I shall give him, shall never thirst.* And the case is plainly this, *The Eye is not satisfied with seeing, nor the Ear filled with hearing. Eccles. 1.8.* What ever can be offered to a Man, cannot satiate his desire, seeing he is capable of infinite Good, and all created things are finite: but he that begins to drink  
of



of celestial Water, in which are comprehended all things, desires nothing, seeks for nothing more.

CHAP. IV.

Water conjoyns and brings into one the things that seem impossible to be united: So many Grains of Bread-Corn, by mixture of Water, are made one Loaf; and of many Particles of Earth, by adding Water to them, Bricks are made: but much more easily and indissolubly the Water of the holy Spirit causeth many Men to become one Heart and one Soul; as is spoken in the *Acts of the Apostles*, Chap. 4. 22. of the first Christians, on whom the Holy Ghost had immediately before descended. And our Lord, when going to his Father, both commended and foretold this Unity, which the Water of the holy Spirit maketh, when he saith, *John 17. 20. Neither pray I for these alone, but for them also that shall believe on me through their Word, that they*  
all



*all may be one, as thou Father art in me, and I in thee, that they also may be one in us. And a little after, that they may be one, even as we are one, I in them and thou in me, that they may be made perfect in one.* To which Unity also the Apostle exhorts in his Epistle to the Ephesians, Chap. 4. 3. *Endeavouring to keep the Unity of the Spirit in the Bond of Peace. There is one Body, and one Spirit, even as ye are called in one hope of your Calling. O happy Union! which makes many Men to be one Body of Christ, which is govern'd by one Head, and eats of one Bread, and drinks of one Cup, and lives of one Spirit, and cleaving to God, is made one Spirit with him. What can a Servant more desire, than that he should not only be made partaker of all his Lord's Goods, but also by the indissoluble Bond of Love, be made one with him, his almighty and most wise, and most beautiful Lord? But all this does the Grace of the holy Spirit effect, as living and enlivening*  
 Water,



Water, when it is devoutly received in the Heart, and preserv'd with all Diligence, and sollicitous Care.

CHAP. V.

**L**Astly ; Water ascends so high as it descends from above ; and because the holy Spirit comes down from the highest Heaven, upon Earth, therefore in that Man in whose Heart he is receiv'd, he becomes a *Fountain of Water springing up into Eternal Life*, as our Lord speaks to the Woman of *Samaria* ; that is to say, a Man born again of Water and the holy Spirit, and hath the same Spirit dwelling in his Heart, lifts up thither the Fruits of his Grace from whence that Grace descended : therefore, O my Soul, being taught and excited by these Words of Scripture, say to thy Father, again and again, with groanings that cannot be utter'd, Give me this Water which may scour off all my Spots, which may quench the heat of Concupiscence, which may

F                      satisfy



satisfy all Thirst, and all Desires ; which may make thee one Spirit with thy God, which may become in thee a Well of Water springing up to eternal Life, that thou mayest send thy Services thither before, where thou hopest thy self to abide to endless Ages.

Not without cause did the Son of God say, *You being evil, know how to give good Gifts to your Children ; how much more shall your Father in Heaven give his good Spirit to them that ask it ?* And he said not, will give Bread, or Raiment, or Wisdom, or Charity, or the Kingdom of Heaven, or eternal Life, but he said, *will give his good Spirit ;* because in that all things are contain'd. Thou therefore cease not daily to mind the Father of his Son's Promise, and to say with mighty Affection, and an undoubted hope of obtaining, O holy Father, not in confidence of mine own Righteousness, but trusting in the Promise of thine only begotten Son, do I pour out my Prayers to thee. 'Twas he that said to us, *How much more shall*  
*your*



*your Father give his good Spirit to them that ask him? assuredly thy Son which is Truth it self, cannot deceive: therefore fulfil the Promise of thy Son, who glorified thee upon Earth, being every where obedient unto Death, even the Death of the Cross; give thy holy Spirit to me who ask it, give me the Spirit of thy Fear and Love, that thy Servant may fear nothing but to offend thee, and may love nothing besides thee, and his Neighbour in thee: Create in me a clean Heart, O God, and renew a right Spirit within me. Cast me not away from thy Presence, and take not thy holy Spirit from me. Restore unto me the Joy of thy Salvation, and uphold me with thy free Spirit. Psal. 51. 10, 11, 12.*

# CHAP. VI.

**I** Come now to the Similitude the Fountains of Water have with God; for from hence the Mind may be raised up to the Contemplation of the truly wonderful and excellent Perfections of him that made them. For



not without just cause is God in holy Scripture called, *The Fountain of Life*, and the *Fountain of Wisdom*, and *Fountain of living Water*; Psal. 35. Eccles. 1. Jer. 2. 13. And that he is the very Fountain of being, may be gathered from the Words of God to Moses, Exod. 3. *I am that I am: he that is hath sent me to you.* The Apostle seems to comprehend all these together when he saith, *in him we live, and move, and have our Being*; for in him we are, as in the Fountain of being, in him we live as in the Fountain of Life, in him we move as in the Fountain of Wisdom: for more moveable is Wisdom than all things moveable, and by its Purity reacheth every where, as is said in the Book of Wisdom, Chap. 7.

A Fountain of Water hath with us this proper to it self, that from it the Rivers arise; and if the Fountains cease to feed them, they presently dry up; but the Fountain depends not on the Streams, for it receives not its Waters from them, but hath them



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them in it self, and communicate them to them. This is the true Symbol and Resemblance of the Divinity, for God is the truest Fountain of being; seeing he receives being from no other thing, and all receive from him. God receives from nothing, *to be*, because it is the Essence of God to be, and Essence it self is his Existence, that it can neither be, nor be conceived in our Thoughts, that God should not have always existed, or not always to exist; other things may be a while, and a while after cease to be, because *to be*, does not necessarily belong to their Essence: as for example; it is of the Essence of a Man to be a reasonable Creature, and therefore he cannot be a Man, and not be a reasonable Creature; and if Existence were of the Essence of a Man, it were impossible he should not always exist; but because it is not of his Essence to exist, therefore he may be, or cease to be. God is therefore the Fountain of being, because actual Existence is included in his very



Essence and this do those words signify, *I am that I am*, that is, I am Being it self, and receive it not from others, but have it in my self; to me alone it belongs, that my very Essence is to be. And hence it is that Eternity and Immortality are peculiarly proper unto God, as saith the Apostle, *To the King eternal, immortal, the only wise God*, 1 Tim. 1. 17. *Who only hath Immortality*; 1 Tim. 6. 16.

But all things so receive their Being from God, that unless they always depend on him, and be preserved by his Concourse, they forthwith would cease to be. Hence the same Apostle saith, *upholding all things by the Word of his Power*; because, unless God should sustain the Creatures, they could not subsist.

Therefore, O my Soul, adore and wonder at the infinite Goodness of thy Maker, who so lovingly bears up and preserveth all things, tho he need them not; and do not less admire and imitate the Patience of the same thy Creator, who is so kind to the  
un-



unthankful and the evil, that he sustains them that blaspheme him, and upholds them that deserve to be reduc'd to nothing; neither let it seem grievous unto thee, that thou art sometime required to bear with the Infirmities of thy Brethren, and to do good to them that hate thee.

Neither is this the only Preheminence of him that is the Fountain of Being, that he receives his Being from no other Fountain, and communicates to all other things their Being. For with us the Waters of the Fountains, and the Waters of the Rivers, are of the same kind: and altho the Waters of the Fountains receive not their Waters from other Fountains, yet have they some other causes of their Being, to wit, the Vapours; and they again have other causes, till we arrive at the first Cause, which is God.

But O my Soul, God that is thy Creator, is not of the same kind with created things, but stands at an infinite distance of Dignity and Nobleness,



ness, and Excellency from them ; and truly and properly is the Fountain of Being, because he not only receiveth not his Being from any other Fountain, or Being, but is wholly without any cause.

A Fountain of created Water, as it was said, is not from other Water, yet is derived from another cause ; the uncreated Fountain of Being, hath nothing before him, depends on nothing, needeth nothing, nothing can hurt him, but all depend on him, and he can extinguish all created things with one wink of his Eye, as saith the most valiant *Macca-*  
*bews.*

Admire, O my Soul, this Eminence, this Beginning without Beginning, this Cause without a Cause, this infinite, illimited, immense, and absolutely necessary Being, in comparison of whom all other Beings are meer Contingencies ; and it may be Truth it self spake of him when he said, But *one thing is necessary* : therefore cleave to this One, and serve him  
only



only, and delight thy self in the love and desire of him alone, and in comparison of him despise all other things, at least be little solicitous about many things, seeing but one thing is necessary, and that alone may be sufficient both for thy self and all others. But let this be thy only care, that thou mayest never fall from his Grace, and study always and every-where to please him.

CHAP. VII.

**M**oreover, God is most rightly called the Fountain of Life, because he lives and hath Life in himself, yea, is himself Eternal Life; *This is the true God, and eternal Life,* saith St. John, Epist. 1. Chap. 5. 20. And all things which live, receive Life from this Fountain: and if he cease to communicate Life to them, they perish, and return unto their Dust, as sings the holy Prophet David. It is the Property of all things which have Life, to beget what is



like unto themselves: thus God begets his Son most like himself, God God, and Living Living, *Deus Deum, & vivens viventem*; for as the Father hath Life in himself, so hath he given to the Son to have Life in himself, John 5. 26. Now the Father hath life in himself, because he is the Fountain of Life, and receives not Life from any other; and hath given to the Son to have Life in himself, because he hath given him the same Life which he himself hath; and for this reason the Son also is a Fountain of Life, but a Fountain of Life from the Fountain of Life, as he is God of God, and Light of Light. Who can explain, yea who can conceive what kind of Life the Life of God is, and what kind of Fountain of Life that is, from whence all things that live either in the Earth, or the Heavens, do draw all their drops? That Life which we in this state of Exile know, is nothing else but an internal Principle of Motion: for those things are said by us to live which some way  
move



move themselves. Hence by way of Similitude they are called *Living Waters*, which flow in Rivers, and *dead*, which stagnate in Ponds; because those seem to be mov'd of themselves, these cannot move, unless they be driven by the Winds, or some other external force.

Thy God, O my Soul, most truly lives, and is the Author and Spring of Life; for himself in holy Scripture often intimates so much, *I live, saith the Lord*; and the Prophets often repeat, *The Lord liveth, The Lord liveth*; and in *Jeremy* God complains of his People, saying, *They have forsaken me the Fountain of Living Water*; and yet he is mov'd neither of himself, nor of any other. *I the Lord change not*, Mal. 3. and elsewhere, *God is not a Man that he should lie, nor the Son of Man that he should repent, or be changed*. And there is a Hymn sung daily in the Latin Church to this effect.

God



*God who strongly all maintaineſt,  
In thy ſelf unmov'd remaineſt,  
Bounding the times of each days light,  
With the ſucceſſion of the Night.*

And altho God begets his Son, he begets him without change; altho he ſees, hears, ſpeaks, loves, pities, judges, he does all without Mutation; altho he creates and preſerves things, or on the contrary deſtroys and ſcatters them, and again renews and changeth them, yet he works reſting, and changeth other things without being mov'd; how therefore does he live if he move not himſelf? And how lives he not, if he be the Fountain and Author of Life? This knot is eaſily untied; this is abſolutely ſufficient to Life, if the thing that lives act of it ſelf, and be not moved by another. But Life for the moſt part in created things, is a Principle of inward Motion, becauſe created things are imperfect, and want many things to perform the Functions



ons of Life : but God is infinite Perfection, and needs nothing out of himself; wherefore he indeeds acts of himself, and not moved by another, but has no need of Motion or Change, needs not Motion or Mutation. Created things need Change, that they may generate and be generated, because they beget out of themselves; and the thing that is begotten must be chang'd from not being into being; but God begets his Son within himself, and within himself proceeds his holy Spirit, and neither the Son or Holy Ghost ought to be chang'd from not being unto being, because they receive that Being that always was; and that they receive not in time, but in Eternity. Created things want motion of Encrease, because they were born imperfect; but God the Son is born most perfect; and God the Holy Ghost is breath'd forth also, and produc'd most perfect. Created things need the motion of Alteration, that they may obtain the various Qualities  
they



they want: but God wants nothing, seeing his Essence is of infinite Perfection. Created things want local motion, because they are not every-where; but God is every-where wholly.

Further; Created things that they may see, that they may hear, that they may speak, that they may work, want many things; because tho indeed they have Life, yet it is imperfect and very poor: but God wants nothing out of himself, that he may see all things, hear all, speak to all, and work all in all, because he not only hath Life, but the Life he hath is most opulent and happy, and he himself is Life, and the Fountain of Life. And that we may give an Example in the act of seeing: a Man that he may see, must have a visive Power, which is distinct from the Soul, which properly lives; he must have an Object, some colour'd Body plac'd without himself; he must have the Light of the Sun, or some other luminous Body; he must have a *Medium,*



upon Fountains of Waters. III

*dium*, some diaphanous Body; he must have a sensible Species, which may be carried from the Object to the Eye; he must have a corporal Organ, that is, an Eye fitly made of various Humours and fleshy Tunicles; he must have sensitive Spirits, and optick Nerves, through which those Spirits may pass; he must have a duly proportion'd distance; and after all, must apply his Power to the act of Seeing. Behold how many helps both Men and other Creatures want, that they may perform one vital Action: but God who truly hath Life wholly in himself, wants nothing at all. His infinite Essence is to him Power, Object, Species, Light and all things else of himself, and by himself, and in himself; God sees and clearly discovers all things which are, which have been, which shall be, and which can be; and before the World was made God saw all things, neither did any thing new accrue unto his Sight or Knowledg by the Creation of all things. What therefore shalt



shalt thou be, O my Soul, when thou shalt be partaker of his Life? what great matter does God command thee, when he requires thee to lay down this corporal, this animal Life, which is so imperfect and full of wants, for thy Brethren, and for God himself, that thou mayest be made partaker of Eternal Life, which is most rich and blessed? And if it be a small matter he requires, when he requires thee to despise Life, how very light and little should it seem, when he bids thee to distribute thy dead Riches liberally to the Poor, to abstain from carnal Lusts, truly to renounce the Devil and his Pomps; and with thy whole Heart to breath after that Life, which alone is Life indeed, and Truth?

## CHAP. VIII.

**B**UT now 'tis time, that as well as we can, we ascend unto the Fountain of Wisdom. The Fountain of Wisdom is the Word of God  
in



in the highest, saith *Ecclesiasticus* ; and well he said in the Highest, because the Fountain of Wisdom abundantly and copiously flows forth upon the holy Angels, and the Souls of the Blessed, whose Habitations are the highest Heavens. To us who are conversant in this Pilgrimage and Desert, not so much Wisdom it self, as a slight scent and shadow of it is attainable. Wherefore, O my Soul, affect not things too much above thee ; search not the Majesty lest thou be oppressed of the Glory. Admire his Wisdom of whom the Apostle speaks ; *To God only wise*, Rom. 16. and gratulate those blessed Souls that drink out of the Fountain of Wisdom : and tho they cannot comprehend God, which is proper to the Fountain of Wisdom it self, yet they see the Face of God, that is, of the first cause without any interposed Vail, and being irradiated by the Beams of his Brightness, can judg rightly of all things ; and in that noon-day Light of Wisdom, fear neither the  
Dark-



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Darkness of Errors, nor Obscurity of Ignorance, nor the Dimness of Opinions. Aspire, O my Soul, unto that Happiness. And that thou mayest safely attain it, love with all thy Heart, the Lord Jesus Christ, in whom are hidden all the Treasures of the Knowledge and Wisdom of God, Col. 2.3. for he hath said in his Gospel, *He that loveth me, shall be loved of my Father, and I will love him, and manifest my self to him,* John 14. 21. And what else doth this signifie, *I will manifest my self to him,* but I will manifest all the Treasures of the Knowledge and Wisdom of God, which lie hid in me? Assuredly every Man naturally desires to know; and tho carnal Lusts do in many lull these desires asleep, yet when we have put off this Body that corrupts and presses down our Soul, then will the Fire of this Desire blaze forth above all Desires. How great will then thy Happiness, O my Soul, be, when thy Beloved and thy Lover **C H R I S T**, will shew thee all the  
Trea-



Treasures of the Knowledg and Wisdom of God? But that such hopes may not be frustrate, strive to keep Christ's Precepts, for he hath said, *If any Man loves me, he will keep my Words; and he that loves me not, keepeth not my Words.* Mean while, let thy Wisdom be such as holy *Job* describes, *The Fear of the Lord is Wisdom; and to depart from evil, is Understanding.* And what good soever thou beholdest in the Creatures, know that it flows from God, the Fountain of all Goodness, and so with blessed *Francis*, learn to taste the Goodness of the Fountain in every Creature, as in Rivolets that are derived from it.







Devotions for Water-drinkers :

O R,

*Meditations, Prayers, and Thanks-  
giving fitted to that occasion.*

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MEDITATION I.

*Upon the many kinds of Diseases  
cured by these Waters.*

**H**OW great is that Evil  
which Fools make a Mock  
of? The Cause may be  
seen in the Effects. Had  
there been no Sin, there had been no  
Sorrow, nor Sickness, no Diseases,  
Pain, or Death. The great number  
of Distempers is no small evidence  
of the great Evil of Sin. 'Tis a  
prolifick Root which bears such vari-  
ety, such multitude of Fruit. The  
great Physician *Fernelius* cries out,  
*Totus*



*Totus Homo, totus Morbus*, which we may english by the Prophet *Isaiah's* Words, *From the sole of the Foot even to the Head there is no Soundness*: and not only from top to bottom, but from outside to within, *the whole Head is sick, and the whole Heart is faint*. And the Prince of Physicians, *Galen*, sums up the Diseases to which the Eye alone is subject, to amount to no less than three hundred: how many then of the whole Head? how many are there of the whole Body? And yet the most of what we know, is the least of what we know not. How many hidden Distempers, and which yet know no Name, are we subject to? And Art is posed to keep pace with Nature, and fit new Names to new Diseases. And almost every Year, some comes upon the Stage known by no other dress, call'd by no other title but the *New Fever*, or *New Disease*.

And yet, O Lord, the number of our Sins, which exceed the number of our Diseases, is more exceeded by the multi-



multitude of thy Mercies, than the Stars outshine the Glowworms, or thy Throne in Heaven is higher than thy Foot-stool on Earth.

He's blind which doth not see, he deserves to be struck dumb who will not confess this Truth, which every day, which every place proclaims; but few more loudly or significantly than this Place or Season. How many Miracles of Mercy doth thy Power and Goodness daily work here? How many Patients wait upon thee the Great Physician? How many chronical and stubborn Distempers, which had baffled all the Sons of Art, yield to the God of Nature? Should the vast number, which daily drink of this Fountain of thy Pleasure, strictly confer Notes, their Distempers would be found as different as their Faces, not two exactly alike, yet all expect, and most obtain Relief? O Lord, by the multitude of thy unknown Mercies, heal all the known, and unknown Diseases of our Bodies, and Sins of our Souls.

MEDI-



## MEDITAT. II.

With Allusion to *John 5. 3.* In them lay a multitude of Impotent Folk, waiting for the moving of the Water.

THE mighty Confluence, of which these Wells are the Centre, is a very humbling, a very mortifying Consideration. For tho the Gallantry and Rich Attire of the Company, may emulate the Courts of greatest Princes, and make this Desert forget its Solitude; and we may in this Wilderness find such Softness and Delicacy, as uses to be in King's Houses: Yet in very truth this place is but a great Hospital, and the splendid Buildings which rise so fast, at *South-borough*, *Rust-Hall* and about *Mount-Ephraim*, are but so many Apartments in this great Infirmary. And the Guests who fill them are but so many Impotent *Lazars*,  
under



under the Vests of *Dives*. Every Glass we drink for cure is a tacite Confession of our hidden Infirmities and inward Distempers; and that tho array'd as the Lillies of the Field, as very Grass as they. Gay Beggars which wait at these *Wells*, which are the Celler of the great House-keeper for a dole of Mercy. Nothing is more insufferable than an insolent Beggar: Nothing more despicable than to be poor and proud; to need Relief, and provoke him from whom we expect it. The first Prescription every wise Physician gives his Patient is, that he must be regular: take what he orders, and as he orders. Thou, Lord, art our Physician, we are thy Patients; these Wells are thy Shop, their Waters are thy Medicines; thy Word the Prescription how we must use them (and all thy other Gifts) with Prayer and Thanks-giving. O that we all may humbly and sincerely do so! *Amen.*

G

M E D I-



## MEDITAT. III.

*Upon an Herse passing by towards  
the Wells, July 22.*

BEing return'd to my Lodgings from  
the Wells, and sitting in the plea-  
sant Tent of my honoured Friend,  
I saw an Herse pass towards the Wells.  
And tho I had not heard of the  
Death of any Person of Quality here-  
abouts, yet it put me in mind of a  
Passage of the wise Moralist *Seneca*,  
which I think (for I dare not affirm  
it at this distance from my Books)  
is in 101 Epist. wrote on the sudden  
Death of *Senecio*. 'Because thou  
'knowest not when Death will ex-  
'pect thee, do thou expect it in eve-  
'ry time : and because thou knowest  
'not where it will meet thee, do thou  
'look for it in every place. 'Tis in  
hope of Health and Life that Men  
come hither ; yet some who come  
down in a Coach, have changed it  
for



for an Herse to be carried up in 5  
 and when they were knocking at the  
 Doors of Health, had the the Gates  
 of the Grave unlock'd to receive  
 them, and found what was ordained  
 for Life to be unto Death. O how  
 good, how wise is it, to be always  
 prepared to die, and every day to  
 strike Tallies with Life! O Lord Je-  
 sus, who wilt certainly be my Judg  
 when I die, give me Wisdom, give  
 me thy Grace to take thy Counsel  
 while I live, while I am in Health  
 to be always ready, as a wise Virgin,  
 for the coming of the Bridegroom.  
*Blessed is that Servant whom his Lord  
 when he comes shall find watching.*  
 Good Lord vouchsafe to make me  
 of that happy number. *Amen.*

**G 2 M E D I C**



## MEDITAT. IV.

*Upon the plentiful Supply with which  
God hath furnished the World  
both for Food and Physick.*

**T**Is a great Aggravation of our Sins that we commit them all against our Benefactor, and abuse all the Creatures of God to his Dishonour. To take, as the Prophet *Hoseah* speaks, his Silver, his Gold, his Wooll and his Flax, his Bread and his Flesh, his Wine, and his Water, his Time and his Talents, and to turn them against himself, and as with Weapons of Unrighteousness to fight against him.

Yet, O Lord, so unconquerable is thy Goodness, that thy Patience seconds thy Bounty, in continuing to us what our ill Deserts have forfeited, as thou gav'st it freely without any good Desert of ours. And not only in supplying our bare Necessities, but furnishing



nishing of us for Convenience, for Pleasure and Delight; yea for recovery of those Distempers which we possibly have brought upon our selves by the abuse of thy own Blessings: for the whole World is thy well-stor'd Shop, and every Element is furnish'd with Supply: The Air with Fowls, the Water with Fish, the Earth with small and great Cattel, and with a numberless variety of Plants and Minerals; and the Fire is the common Servant to them all, to concoct their Crudities, to dress and make them fit for Use and Nourishment: Neither are they less apt for Physick than for Food, for Medicine than for Meat.

To pass the rest in a grateful, tho' silent Admiration; The Fountains are not only thy Cellars to quench our Thirst; but thy Baths and thy Alimbecks, where Almighty Goodness is the Operator, and the God of Nature prevents the Trouble and Charge of Art.

O let this thy Goodness at length conquer the Obstinacy of our Rebellions,



bellions, that our Ingratitude and Provocations may never overcome thy Clemency and Patience; that we may be so weary and asham'd of sinning against thee, that thou mayest never be weary, nor repent the doing of us good. *Amen.*

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MEDITAT. V.

*Upon the Water of Jealousy, Numbers the 5th.*

**T**Here are many righteous Laws, and severe Threatnings in holy Scripture, of the Execution of which we meet with no recorded Instance or Example. Such is that of the rebellious Son being ston'd to death upon his Parents Complaint of him, and testifying against him for his Disobedience; *Dent. 21. 18.* And that of the bitter Water to be drunk by the Wife of the jealous Husband, (which Water was to be mixt with the



the Dust of the Floor of the Tabernacle, probably to make the Punishment, Sins Anagram; and to signify it should not fail of its dire Effects on them who trampled under foot the Authority of him who dwelt in it), which caused her Belly to swell, and Thigh to rot, who was defiled: *Numb. 5.*

There is a great Affinity and Likeness between God's Books of his Word; and of his Works: the Laws of both have righteous Sanctions either expressed or imply'd; and tho we read not Examples of the Punishments of those who brake the first, nor have observed instances of their Misery who have transgressed the latter, yet assuredly wilful Offenders shall not escape the smart and burden of vindictive Justice.

O my Soul, thy Maker is thy Husband, provoke him not to Jealousy; let not the Impunity of others embolden thee: they may feel that (those *sorda verbera*) which thou canst take no notice of, or he who sees



their day is coming, may reserve severer Wrath against that day. What ever others do, do thou thy Duty. Love flows in these Waters; make suitable returns of Love: Provoke not him whose Help thou always needest, and here most signally expectest, not only lest thy Hopes abuse thee with a Disappointment, but the expected Blessing be turn'd into a Curse; and instead of opening Obstructions, and yielding Help and Health, they make thy Belly swell, and occasion Sorrow, Pain and Death.

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### MEDITAT. VI.

**W**Hen I observe the great Quantities of Water drunk every Morning at these Wells, it calls to my mind that Expression of *David*, of some who drink Iniquity like Water. Lust is a very thirsty and insatiable thing, it never saith it is enough; 'tis an hydropick Sickness of



of the Soul : the more it drinks the more it thirsts. The Fountain of Corruption cannot be stopt, it is impatient of a Damm. If one Outlet be shut, it will find or make another. But O how poisonous, how deadly are those draughts it swallows down with so greedy a delight ? We here drink innocent Healths. But such Men drink much worse than *Circean* Cups, their own Damnation. How can any Sinner hope for impunity, when every Sin carries its own Hell, a bottomless desire after more ? And O most Righteous Lord, 'tis just and equal that they who have forsaken Thee the satisfying Fountain of Living Waters, should weary themselves in their labouring after Disappointment, in hewing out such broken Cisterns as can hold no Water. O Thou who hast given me a Soul capable of thy Self, and incapable of rest till it rests in thy self, who art the Center of its Being and Desires, draw me to thy Self, fit me for thy Self, fill me with thy Self ; give me to drink of those Waters



of Paradise, every drop of which is bigger than the Ocean. Give me to hunger and thirst after Righteousness, and I have the Security of his Word, who cannot lie, that I shall be satisfied; that having a Well of Water in my self, derived from thee the living Fountain, I may thirst no more with an uneasy, vexing, deadly Thirst.

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MEDITAT. VII.

Ezek. 47. 9. --- *And every thing shall live whither the River cometh.*

**T**He latter part of this Prophet is so dark, that all Interpreters are ready to cry out, as I remember *Cartusianus* doth, when he comes to it, I now enter into the thick darkness. 'Tis no wonder therefore that the heads of that River, which brake out in those Regions of Obscurity, should be more hidden than those of *Nile*; yet undoubtedly this is that River which *David* saith *makes glad the City of*



of God; and which he elsewhere calls *the River of his Pleasure*. What can this be but those Waters of the Sanctuary which flow from the Throne of God and the Lamb, the Graces and Comforts of thy Spirit? O let that Blessed Spirit, which proceedeth from the Father and the Son, and whom the *Nicene Creed* teacheth us to call *the Lord and Giver of Life*, come down upon us, and effect more in and for our Souls, than we expect or look for to our Bodies, from the Waters of these Wells; that by the coming of this River to us, we may live the life of Grace here, and may be fitted for the Life of Everlasting Glory hereafter.

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M E D I



## MEDITAT. VIII.

Upon 2 Kings 5. 12.

*Are not Abana and Pharphar, Rivers of Damascus, better than all the Waters of Israel? May I not wash in them, and be clean? and he went away in a rage. With vers. 17. ---- Thy Servant will henceforth offer neither Burnt-Offering nor Sacrifice unto other Gods, but unto the LORD.*

There's not a greater difference betwixt the Waters in which he wash'd, and the Fire by which he offered burnt Sacrifice, than between the Sentiments and Language of the Syrian Leper, and the cleansed Proselyte. How did the Rage of his insolent Mind flame out at his disdainful Lips? But when that *Jordan* which wash'd



wash'd his Body, had baptiz'd his Soul, healing both, with how sedate a Calmness, and humble and resolved Firmness doth he devote himself to *Israel's* God, and to the Rights of his before despised Worship?

The right Reason be the Handmaid of Devotion, and the best Stock on which to graft Religion, (for nothing is more reasonable, than that God should communicate his Grace in his own Methods, and receive our Homage according to his own Appointments,) yet carnal Reason, truly so call'd, corrupt and blinded with the malignant Influence, and selfish Interest of Flesh and Blood, dares rival God's Wisdom, and more than mate his Authority, deride it.

It would perhaps sound harsh if some of us should ask, Are not other Waters better than these of *Tunbridg-Wells*? How uncomely is it then to depress the Wells of *Sion* below the Cisterns of Sins and Creatures? yet how many *Abana's* and *Pharphar's* do most prefer before God's *Jordan*?  
not



not only defecrating the Waters consecrated to the mystical washing away of Sin, (and all his other holy Institutions) by disbelieving God's good Promises, and neglecting to make good their own, but the very Fountain from which they were derived, that opened for Sin and for Uncleaness in the side of Christ?

Not only the stagnant Pool of our Unrighteousness, and the broken Cisterns of Creature Comforts; but the cleanest Streams of our best Righteousnesses, are Waters of *Damascus*, compar'd to the Blood and Spirit of Christ.

O my Soul, take heed thou equal none of them with Him in thy Esteem and Love. And O my God, give me such a sense of my worthless Emptiness as may make me profoundly humble! And that Humility will make me thankful, and that Thankfulness will inflame my Love, and that Love will constrain my Obedience to a willing observance of all thy Institutions, because they bear the  
Image



Image and Inscription of thy Authority, of thy Wisdom and thy Goodness; who art thy self the Fountain of every Stream that is desirable and good. *Amen.*

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MEDITAT. IX.

Upon *Psal.* 87. 7.

*All my Springs are in thee.*

**G**OD is often called a Rock by *Moses*, and the Prophets; but especially by *David*; and there's good reason for that Appellation: for there's no Creature, that hath not Life, that hath more, and more lively Resemblances of his Nature, and Properties. He is a strong Refuge, a firm Foundation, a refreshing Shade, a secure Hiding-place. But most eminently, all Springs of Goodness are in Him, and issue from him, as Waters from a Rock. All our Springs  
are



are in him, of Life, and Being, of Food and Raiment, of Meat and Medicine, of preservation in Health, and recovery out of Sicknes. These nether-Springs, O Lord, gush out upon us by the unlocking of thy Treasuries.

But more especially those upper Springs of Grace and Comfort, Pardon and Peace : And above all, the Blessing of these Blessings to us, and rendring of them, what we pray they may be, Blessings indeed.

O Lord my God, thy Goodness is the rich Mineral, through which our Springs do glide ! 'tis this which gives them, both their Tincture and their Taste, renders them wholsom, makes them healthful. O that this may impregnate all the Streams which flow so freely to us, may rectify, may sanctify, may bless them to us, that we may bless and glorify thy holy Name in that behalf for ever ! *Amen.*

M E D I T



## MEDITAT. X.

Upon Rev. 22. 17.

*The Spirit and the Bride say, Come ;  
and whosoever will, let him take  
the Waters of Life freely.*

**W**Hatever is beneficial, insinuates it self to prove Instructive, and thereby acquires a Right to be so ; and by doing of us good, obligeth us to be good.

These Waters have a Voice, and joyn the *Chorus*, which ecchoing the call of the Spirit, and the Bride, (the Church on Earth, and God from Heaven) invite us to come and take of the Waters of Life freely. The Perennity of their Streams, the free access that, from the Prince to the Peasant, all have to them ; their equal Helpfulness to rich and poor, to bad and good ; and many more like Properties, are all instructive.

They



They heal no bodily Infirmary, which hath not some Distemper of our Souls, to be relieved by those living Waters.

They teach us Perseverance and Constancy in doing well, that our Goodness be not as the Morning-Dew, but, like their lasting Streams, to yield a free approach to those who need our Help; to be ready to distribute, willing to communicate, to be forward to do good to all.

O my Soul, exemplify their Virtues, and improve the advantages thy Body hath obtained by their use to the like helping of the inward Man. Have they wash'd out the Slime, the Sand, the Gravel, and heal'd or eas'd thee of the Stone? Let it melt thy stony Heart into an Heart of flesh: and be encouraged hence to believe, and sue out into Performances, the Promises of the Covenant of Grace (which are the Springs of Salvation) from the Experience of God's fulfilling what his Providence doth tacitely promise, by these natural Fountains;



tains; Experience breeds Hope. Have they begot an Appetite? Hunger and thirst thou after Righteousness. Have they sweetned the Blood, thin'd it, and made it circulate, opened and remov'd Obstructions? put thou away all Superfluity of Naughtiness, all Rancor, Malice and Revenge: fill up the circle of universal Obedience, and let nothing hinder the Grace of God from having a free course through all thy Faculties. Have these cut the tough, the viscid Humours? let those better Waters cut the Iron Sinew, till thy Neck willingly bow to the sweet, to the easy Yoke of Christ. Have they rendred any fruitful? let the barren Soul endeavour to have Christ formed in it, that it may bring forth Fruit to God. Have they cooled those Heats you call Heart-burnings? Apply these Waters of Life to the cauteriz'd Conscience, fear'd as with an hot Iron; that these may quench the Burning, mollify the Tumour, cicatrize the Wound, till your Hearts  
be



be cured of an evil Conscience, to serve the living God with Purity and Peace. O my Soul hear thou these kind, these gracious Invitations. And O my God, circumsise my Heart, that I may close with them; and what thou offerest so freely, give effectually, and help me to receive thankfully, and improve savingly, that they may be indeed the Waters of Life in Grace and Glory, that I may thirst no more. *Amen.*

*The end of the Meditations.*

Some



*Some Forms of PRAYER and  
THANKSGIVING to as-  
sist the Devotion of those who drink  
the Waters of Tunbridg-Wells,  
or wait upon God's Providence in  
the use of other Mineral Foun-  
tains.*

PRAYER I.

**O** Almighty God, and our  
most merciful Father in  
Jesus Christ, who by the  
Mouth of him thy dearest  
Son hast taught us, that Man lives  
not by Bread only, but by the Word  
which proceedeth out of thy Mouth.  
We know that dead things cannot  
give us Life without the Influence  
and



and Blessing of Thee, who art the living God; nor any preparations of Art or Nature heal us, without thy Healing Concurrence, who stilest thy Self, *The Lord that healeth*. We therefore most humbly beseech thee, to accompany with thy Blessing, and to crown with a desired and merciful Success, the use we make of these **Medicinal Waters**; that they may occasion neither Sin nor Sicknes, nor any Inconvenience to us: but prove useful and beneficial to us, for the continuance, restauration, and confirmation of Health to our frail Bodies. And as we beg thy leave to use, thy Grace to use aright, and thy Blessing upon the use of, these Waters of the nether Springs: So with humble earnestness we beg, that the Waters of the Sanctuary, which flow from the Throne of the Lamb of God, the promised Floods of thy holy Spirit, may be plentifully poured forth upon us, to refresh, to satisfie, to cleanse, to heal our parched, weary, and polluted Souls: that so both with  
our



our Bodies and our Spirits, which thou hast made by thy Power, and bought with the price of thy Son's Blood, we may glorify Thee our great Creator, and gracious Redeemer for ever. *Amen.*

## II.

O most holy Lord God, who thou Thou art most merciful, in providing relieving Remedies for thy Creatures, yet art most jealous of thy Glory, and expectest to be owned and acknowledged in all the Works of thy Power and Goodness to the Sons of Men. We pray thee raise up our Hearts by these Waters, and beyond the Virtues of them, to thy Self, whose Providence hath made them what they are. And as we abhor that gross Idolatry, of worshipping the likeness of any thing that is in the Waters under the Earth: So we pray thee preserve us from a more refined, but not less criminal Idolatry, of placing our Confidence in their Qualities and  
Vir-



Virtues, and forgetting Thee the Maker of them : lest we provoke Thee to withdraw the Blessing we expect, and inflict the Curse we have cause to fear ; and to make them the Instruments of thy Vengeance, because we made them the Objects of our Trust, and Occasions of thy Jealousie. Grant this, O Lord, for Christ his sake. *Amen.*

## III.

O most gracious God, who delightest in Mercy, and pardonest Iniquity, Transgression and Sin : We thy poor sinful Creatures humbly cast down our selves before thee ; begging the Forgiveness of our Offences, which may justly cause thee to withhold good things from us, yea to turn our Blessings into Curses ; that what is made for the good of others, might become to us a Snare and occasion of falling. But we beseech thee deal not with us according to our deserts : but bless to us the use  
of



of these Waters, that we may receive those Benefits by them, for which we may have great cause to honour, love and serve thee for ever. And we pray thee give us good Hearts to do accordingly, for thy Mercy sake. *Amen.*

## I V.

O Lord, who art the Fountain of living Waters, we confess with shame, we have forsaken Thee, and have hewen out to our selves empty and broken Cisterns, which can hold no Water: for which it might be just with thee, to forsake and cast us off for ever. But good Lord, convince us of this Folly; pardon, and turn us from it. Do us good by these Wells we daily see and taste of, and open our Eyes, as thou didst the Eyes of *Hagar*, to see those Wells of Salvation which are hid from all but those to whom thou art pleased to shew them: and help us with joy to draw from thence, what may so suffice and satisfie us, that we may thirst no more. *Amen.* H Al-



Almighty God, the Fountain of all Goodness; we reade that thy *Manna* relisht agreeably, and pleased the various Palats of all that ate it. O that these *Waters* may profit every person that drinks of them, how different so ever the Distempers are for which they drink them: That thy Wisdom and Power may more signally appear, by thy producing such various Effects from one and the same single Cause. And help us all who drink of one Well, to be knit together in the Bond of true Christian Charity; and to praise thee for the Mercies thou bestowest on our selves, and for the Mercies thou vouchsafest unto others, as heartily as for our own; for Christ his sake who is our common Head.  
*Amen.*

## VI.

O most blessed Lord God, who givest thy Blessings, and alone canst bless thy Gifts: We beseech thee re-  
move



move thy Curse which our Sins have deserved, from us, from all our Injoyments, and particularly from these Waters we are gathered hither to make use of: and let thy Blessing so accompany and follow our drinking of them, that we may be both obliged and inabled to praise thy Name, through Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

VII.

O most gracious God, who hast made a gracious Promise, that all things shall work for the good of them that love thee: ingraft in our Hearts such love to thy Name, as may intitle us to this good Promise. And altho we have forfeited our present Comforts, and future Expectations of Good; yet take not the Forfeitures we have made, but crown with continual Patience, thy former Bounty; and add new Favours, and suffer none of us where and while we seek for help, and Ease, and Health, and Life, to meet with Pain, or Sorrow, Sick-



ness, Death and Judgment: But by  
by these Waters heal our Diseases,  
and by a better Fountain purge a-  
way, and pardon all our Sins, through  
Jesus Christ our Lord and only Me-  
diator. *Amen.*

## VIII.

O Lord our God, who art the in-  
exhaustible Fountain of all both spi-  
ritual and temporal good things, for  
our Souls, and for our Bodies: we lift  
up our Hearts and Hands to Thee in  
Heaven, for a merciful Supply of all  
our inward and outward Wants,  
and that Thou wouldst sanctify and  
bless to us all those Supplies thy Good-  
ness doth vouchsafe us, both for our  
Souls and Bodies, whether for Meat  
or Medicine; and particularly these  
Waters, that they may do us much  
good, and no hurt; and for all the  
benefits we receive from Thee, we  
pray thee inable us to render to Thee  
such returns of Service, Love, and  
Thankfulness as Thou mayest expect,  
and



and wilt accept, through Jesus Christ  
our Lord. *Amen.*

## IX.

O most mighty God, who makest  
the **Fountains of Waters**, those in  
the Fields and Deserts, as Thou art  
the God of *Nature*; and that in thy  
Church (the Fountain of our Bap-  
tism) as Thou art the God of *Grace*:  
We most humbly beseech Thee bap-  
tize us with the Holy Ghost, and let  
it be the constant study of our lives,  
to keep the Covenant we made with  
Thee in our Baptism; and to exem-  
plify it by such a Conversation as be-  
comes the Gospel, receiving by Faith  
the good Promises thou hast made to  
us, and making good with faithfulness  
the Promises we then made to Thee,  
to thy Glory, the good example of all  
our fellow-Christians, and the Com-  
fort and Salvation of our Souls by Je-  
sus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

## X.

O most merciful Lord God, who  
hast opened a Fountain for Sin and

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for



for Uncleanness in the Side, in the Heart of thy own dear Son; whom Thou sentest into this World to save his People from their Sins, from all their Sins, and all that is in Sin. O let nothing be in vain to our Souls of all that he hath done or suffered, instituted or ordained for his Peoples good. Justify us freely in his Blood, sanctify us throughly by his Spirit; and let him be made of God to us, *Wisdom*, to preserve us from the deceitfulness of Sin; *Sanctification*, to deliver us from the filthiness of Sin; *Redemption*, to free us from the bondage and dominion of Sin; and *Righteousness*, to save us from the guilt and damnation of Sin; that we may never perish, but have Everlasting Life. All which we beg for his sake, who is thy Christ, and our Jesus: to whom with thy Self, and thy eternal Spirit, be ascribed everlasting Praise and Glory for evermore. *Amen.*

*The end of the Prayers.*

*Forms*



*Forms of Thanksgiving.*

## I.

**O** LORD most Mighty, the great Creator of all things in Heaven and Earth : whose Works are the Witnesses of Thy Being ; and of the adorable Perfections of thy Nature : We bless and magnify thy glorious Name for all thy wondrous Works ; for making the Heavens and their Host, the Earth, and its Store ; the Sea, and all the Waters in it, and that spring from it : and in particular for making these *Healing Fountains* ; for making known their Virtues ; for giving us liberty to use them ; and for any Blessing formerly, or at this season vouchsafed to us by the use of them. And we pray Thee to crown these Mercies with one better than



152 Forms of Thanks-giving.

the rest, even so thankful an Heart as may improve all to thy Glory, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

II.

O Lord, who art good, and dost good: We bless thy glorious Name for what thou art, and what thou dost; for the Healing Fountain of thy free Grace, and for the free Fountain of these Healing Waters; for the Blessings of thy Throne, and of thy Footstool; for our Life, and for our Livelihood; for our Food, and for our Physick; for the Waters of the upper and the nether Springs; for all thy Fountains, and for all their Streams. Good Lord, create one Fountain more, even a Fountain of Love and Thankfulness in all our Hearts, and cause it to flow with constant streams of Obedience and Praise, which may be acceptable in thy sight, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

III.



## III.

O Lord, who art pleased to declare, That who-so offereth Thee Thanks and Praise, honoureth Thee; Accept our unfeigned desires to honour Thee, by giving thee Thanks and Praise with our whole Hearts, and our whole Souls, for thy manifold and inestimable Mercies vouchsafed unto us. *Not unto us, Lord, not unto us, but to thy holy Name be given Glory.* We are less than the least of thy Mercies: We deserved none before we had them: we have forfeited all since we had them; yet art thou pleased of thy Astonishing Goodnes, to give us new Instances of Mercy every day; Lord, give us a renewed sense of them all, and an holy Zeal, with humble Hearts to honour Thee for them all; through Him by whom they are conveyed to us, that is, thy Son, our Lord and Saviour, *Jesus Christ. Amen.*



## I V.

O Almighty and infinitely gracious Lord God, we desire to fear Thee, to give Thee Glory, and to worship Thee that madest the Heaven and the Earth, and the Sea and the Fountains of Water; and for making these in particular, of which we drink daily with so much satisfaction, and expectation of relief: We beseech Thee let not our Provocations disappoint our Hopes, but pardon those, and nourish these, and crown them with a blessed success; that we may ever give Thee Thanks, and live thy Praises, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

## V.

What shall we render to the Lord for all his Benefits? Let us take the Cup of Salvation and call upon the Name of the Lord most high. But who can shew forth all his Praises, who can reckon up the Mercies of  
one



Forms of Thanks-giving. 155

one Water-season, Our safe Arrival  
under his Protection from our Ha-  
bitations, needful Conveniences in  
this place for Soul and for Body, for  
daily Worship and for daily Bread.  
O Lord we bless thee that we have  
so many Mercies to bless thee for,  
that we have an House, a Chappel  
built to bless thee in. O let us not  
want Hearts to bless thee with, for  
Christ his sake. *Amen.*

VI.

O Lord our God, whose Power,  
Wisdom and Goodness are signally  
manifested in making the Fountains  
of Waters: We praise thee for these  
and all other Manifestations of thy  
Almighty Power, unsearchable Wis-  
dom, and inexhaustible Goodness.  
And we beseech thee help us to walk  
before thee, as become those who do  
indeed believe Thee to be such, by  
fearing thee for thy Power, follow-  
ing the conduct of thy Wisdom, and  
loving thee for thy Goodness, and  
all



156 **Forms of Thanks-giving.**

all the Manifestations of it, both by thy Providence and Grace. Grant this, O most merciful Father, for the sake of thy dearest Son, and our dearest Lord and Saviour, to whom with thy self and thy most blessed Spirit be ascribed everlasting Honour, Praise and Glory. *Amen.*

VII.

Almighty Lord God, who by thy Power and Wisdom hast made the Fountains of the great Deep, and out of the depth of thy Mercy, that Fountain of Baptism, the Waters of which thou hast consecrated to the mystical washing away of Sin; We most heartily bless thee for creating us after thy Image, for our being born in the bosom of thy Church, of Christian Parents, in whose right and by whose care we were dedicated to thee in holy Baptism, and after brought up in the true Religion. We beseech thee baptize us by the Holy Ghost: Wash us from the guilt  
and



Forms of Thanks-giving. 157

and filth of all our Sins: Justify us freely: Sanctify us thoroughly: Create in us, O Lord, a clean Heart, and renew in us a right Spirit. In our Baptismal Waters inable us to quench all the fiery Darts of the Devil, and to wash off all the Defilements of our sinful Flesh, and to dissolve all the Snares of the Pomps and Vanities of this wicked World; all which we have solemnly renounced. And let the same Waters so moisten our Hearts, that they may be fruitful in Faith, Repentance and new Obedience, that we may walk before thee in Righteousness and true Holiness all our days. To the Glory of God the Father who created us, and God the Son who redeem'd us, and God the Holy Ghost, who, we hope, hath sanctified us, to whose Name we were consecrated, and to promote whose Glory is not less our Interest than it is our Duty, to which undivided Trinity, and eternal Unity be everlasting Praise and Adoration. *Amen.*

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*Short Meditations and Ejaculations  
to be used whilst the Waters are  
drinking.*

**H**OW early do we rise to drink  
these Waters? In the Morning  
shall my Prayer prevent thee, O thou  
whose Compassions are new every  
morning.

No Man can tell the Date of these  
Fountains, nor can any Man foretell  
their Period: Yet are they but as  
yesterday to Him, *who is yesterday, to  
day, and the same for ever: Who was,  
who is, and is to come.*

How many Glasses have been  
drunk from these Wells? how much  
more Water hath run waste? how  
many yet remain in their pregnant  
Womb?



Womb? and how many Millions of Drops would these amount to? yet all those Drops, with all the Sands of these sandy Deserts, would not equal the Years of that Eternity, to which O my Soul, thou hastenest so fast.

These rich Wells are in a low Valley, surrounded with high, sandy, dry and barren Hills: The meek and lowly God will enrich with his Grace. *He resists the Proud, and gives Grace to the Humble.*

The method of our Water-drinking is instructive: We begin with fewer Glasses, and rise gradually till we arrive at a due Proportion: this we should imitate.

We must grow in Grace, go from Strength to Strength. *The way of the Just is as the Morning-Light, which shineth more and more unto the perfect Day.*

A Christian should know no Period, but Perfection. He that thinks  
he



he hath Grace enough, may thereby be convinced he hath too little.

When we are going off, we then decrease our Number, this we must avoid; 'tis bad to stand at a stay; for not to go forward is to go backward in the things of God. But to decline, sadly forebodes our final going off.

That Question of our Lord, *Where are the nine?* was a cutting and upbraiding one. Ten were healed, and but one among them was found thankful. How mean and despicable soever I am, Lord, make me truly humble and thankful. 'Tis better to be a grateful *Samaritan*, than a graceless *Israelite*.

Lord, bless these Waters to us.

Lord give us leave to use them. And Lord, give us both Cause and Hearts to be thankful for them.



O thou maker of the Fountains,  
make these useful to us all who drink  
of them.

Lord give us to drink plenteously  
of the Wells of Salvation.

O Lord who givest these Waters  
without our asking, We humbly ask  
thy Blessing upon the use of them.

O thou Fountain of Living Wa-  
ters, evermore give us of those  
Streams which flow from thee.

Give us this day our daily Bread ;  
whatever is needful for Health or  
Strength, whether Food or Physick.

Impregnate these Waters, O Lord,  
with thine own Goodness.

Lord let us have the use of these  
Waters by thy Leave ; and a Blessing  
upon them by thy Love.

Lord



Lord suffer us not to provoke thee  
to Anger, where we come to seek  
Relief from thee.

O Lamb of God, from under whose  
Throne flow Living Waters, wash  
away our Sins by those Waters.

O thou Son of God, who wast  
with thy Father when as yet there  
were no created Fountains abound-  
ing with Water, Manifest that Love  
to me which flows from the eternal  
Fountain of free Grace, and that  
Love wherewith thou lovedst thine  
before the World was.

Lord remove that Curse our Sins  
have deserved these Waters should  
be imbittered by, and sweeten them  
with Blessings we neither have nor  
can deserve from thee.

Good Lord help us to improve  
for thee all the Mercies we here or  
elsewhere receive, or hope for from  
thee.

Ejacu-



*Ejaculatory Praises.*

**B**Lessed be the Maker of these  
Fountains, for all that Power,  
Wisdom, Goodness manifested in the  
making of them. Blessed be God  
for any Blessing, now or formerly re-  
ceived by them.

O thou Fountain of Goodness,  
who art Good, and dost Good, we  
praise thee for all the Good thou ever  
didst for any by these Good Foun-  
tains.

O that we could praise thee as  
thankfully, as thou givest these  
Waters freely.

Bless the Lord, O my Soul, and all  
that is within me bless his holy Name.  
Bless the Lord, O my Soul, and for-  
get



get not all his Benefits; who forgiveth all thy Sins, and healeth all thy Diseases.

O all ye Works of the Lord, bless ye the Lord, praise him, and magnify him for ever.

O ye *Tunbridg-Wells*, bless ye the Lord, praise him, and magnify him for ever.

O let all who ever received Benefit by the Waters of these Wells, bless the Lord, praise him, and magnify him for ever.

O my Soul, bless thou the Lord, praise him, and magnify him for ever.

Blessed be God for all the natural and supernatural Fountains he hath made, as the God of Nature, as the God of Grace.

Blessed



Blessed be God for making us, and  
blessed be God for making all things  
for us: blessed be God for Springs  
of Common Water, and of Mineral  
Waters, for the Fountain of free  
Grace, and for the Covenant of  
Grace, for his Son and for his Spirit,  
for his Word and for his Sacraments,  
for all the means of Grace, and hopes  
of Glory. *Amen.*

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*F I N I S.*

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