

The awful worth and very high dignity of the soul, arising from its immortality; and the necessity of caring for its future well-being / [James Graham].

Contributors

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THE awful worth, and very high DIGNITY
of the SOUL, arising from its *Immortality*;
—and the necessity of caring for its future
well-being urged from the shortness and
uncertainty of this our present state of trial,
—and the absolute certainty of a future state
of everlasting darkness, torments, and ago-
nizing despair—or of Light, of Blessedness,
and of inconceivable and eternal Glory!

DEAR FRIEND,



THE Eternal Salvation of one Soul is of far
greater importance, and bigly pregnant
with far greater events, than the temporal
salvation, or wealth, or well-being, or
happiness of an whole kingdom, though
it were for the space of ten thousand, or of ten millions
of ages; because there will come up a point, an instant
in eternity, when that one soul shall have existed as many
ages, as all the individual men and women of an whole
kingdom ranged in close succession, will, in the whole,
have existed in the space of ten thousand, or in ten millions
of ages: Therefore, one soul is capable of a larger share

of happiness, or of misery, throughout, or rather IN an endless eternity, for eternity will still be before it, more than an whole kingdom is capable of in ten thousand, or in millions of millions of ages. Watch, therefore, and pray, and meditate on Death and on Eternity. Never depart nor deviate from Truth, on any occasion, nor in even the smallest degree. Be sober, be pure, be self-denying. Do as little harm as possible. Do all the good that you can. Read in the Old and New Testaments every morning, and every night of your life, with ejaculatory and other prayer and praising. Retire more and more from the noise, and nonsense, and delusions of the world, of the flesh, and of the devil. Reckon that this day or this night may be your last;—and that some day or night soon must, and inevitably will, be your last:—or, in other words—that, in a few moments more—a tremendous eternity of torments, of darkness, and of despair—or of Light, of Harmony, and of Blessedness, at present inconceivable—will burst open upon your naked, quivering, and astonished soul—which either devils will snatch away into Hell to insult and torment—or which Angels will receive and welcome—into the blissful realms of everlasting day. Cling and cleave, then, closer, and closer, and closer to our dear ever-blessed *Jesus Christ!* the only begotten, and ever well-beloved Son of *God!* the alone Saviour of the World! intensely and incessantly praying to *God* the Father! through His dear Son! for the Holy Ghost or Spirit!—ever proceeding from Them! (illuminating, harmonizing, and blessing the Worlds)—to confirm and animate your faith in Him—to inflame and purify your love of Him—to increase and regulate your steady imitation of His examples—and your willing obedience to all His Commandments.—Once more, dear


Friend, be humble—be sober—be pure and chaste in the single—and continent in the married state. Be watchful, patient, and resigned to the Will of *God* in all things. Consult not with human Wisdom:—lean not on an arm of flesh. Let your chief, or your only Prayer be, “Not *mine*, but Thy Will, O *Lord*! be done.” Keep most strictly holy every Sabbath-day. Be regular in going to Church, and in partaking worthily of the Sacred Ordinance of the Holy Supper. Honour and comfort your parents. Do your duty to the bodies and to the souls of your children, and of your servants. Be active in the service of your family, and of your fellow-creatures. Despise the pleasures, the wealth, and the honours of this poor, fleeting, wicked world. Aspire to purer Pleasures, to true Riches and Honours, and to the most permanent Felicities. Be most strictly honest in all your dealings:—and lay up your Treasures in Heaven, which will endure for evermore. Avoid passion—anger—wrath. Forgive and pray for your enemies. Resent not any injury done to you or to your concerns. Avoid, resist, and flee from the **FIRST** motion, inclination, or temptation to sin:—and allow not yourself to go on in the commission of even the smallest sin or immorality. Omit not any one known duty. Relieve the poor and needy. Pity, pray for, and endeavour to reclaim the vicious. Instruct the ignorant. Visit the sick and the prisoner. Plead for those who cannot plead for themselves. Be kind and courteous to all. In a word—be zealous in promoting the honour and glory of *God* in the highest;—love your neighbours;—and work out with fear, trembling, diligence, and hope, your own salvation, through the infinite and most wondrous merits and mediation of our dearest *Lord Jesus Christ*!—and under the Sacred and Benign influences of that Holy, and Om-

nipotent, and Eternal Parent Spirit! which for ever with tender mercifulness broodeth over, and penetrateth, and illustrateth with Light—Love—and Blessedness, All His Works in the Natural and in the Moral Worlds.

✍ I cannot conclude, without once more urging you, as you value health, prosperity, and happiness now—and Light and Blessedness ten thousand ages hence, to read the Sacred Scriptures and to pray daily—to keep most strictly holy every Sabbath-day—to be temperate, sober, and chaste;—early and regular in your hours;—diligent and conscientious in your business:—and, if possible, associate with none but with sober, honest, virtuous, and truly religious persons. Be humble, meek, and merciful to all;—and never knowingly tell a lie to obtain even the greatest worldly advantage, nor even to escape Death. Bless *God* daily, *FOR*, and through *Jesus Christ*!—for the clear and full Revelation of His Holy Word and Will in the Bible!—for the institution of the Sabbath-day—and of His most Sacred Ordinances of Baptism, and the *Lord's* Supper. In a word—meditate much on the awfulness, and speedy certainty of Death—on dread—on incomprehensible Eternity;—and continually look up to *God in Christ*! as your Sun and your Shield!—as your Father and Friend!—as your ever adorable and eternal All in All!

I most earnestly beseech you, my dear Friend, to think seriously and constantly on these most important Truths;—yea, I conjure you in the Holy Name of *Jesus Christ* to meditate upon them and to practise them. In His Name I bless you. For His sake I am ever your willing, faithful, and affectionate friend—and I beg of you to pray for me His poor, weak, and worthless Servant,

JAMES GRAHAM,—O. W. L!



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[The page contains extremely faint, illegible text, likely bleed-through from the reverse side. The text is organized into several paragraphs, with some lines appearing to be underlined. The overall appearance is that of a blank page with ghosting of content.]