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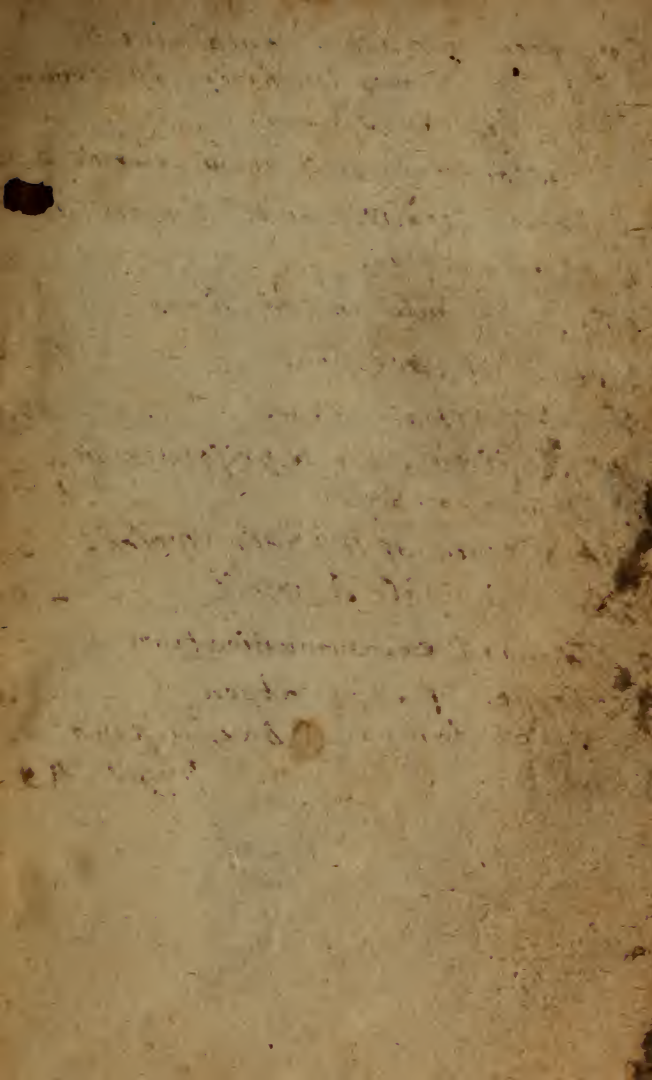
Thomas Towary

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Mr. T.



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2. his last Speech	
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C R Y

From the Dead;

OR, THE

G H O S T

OF THE

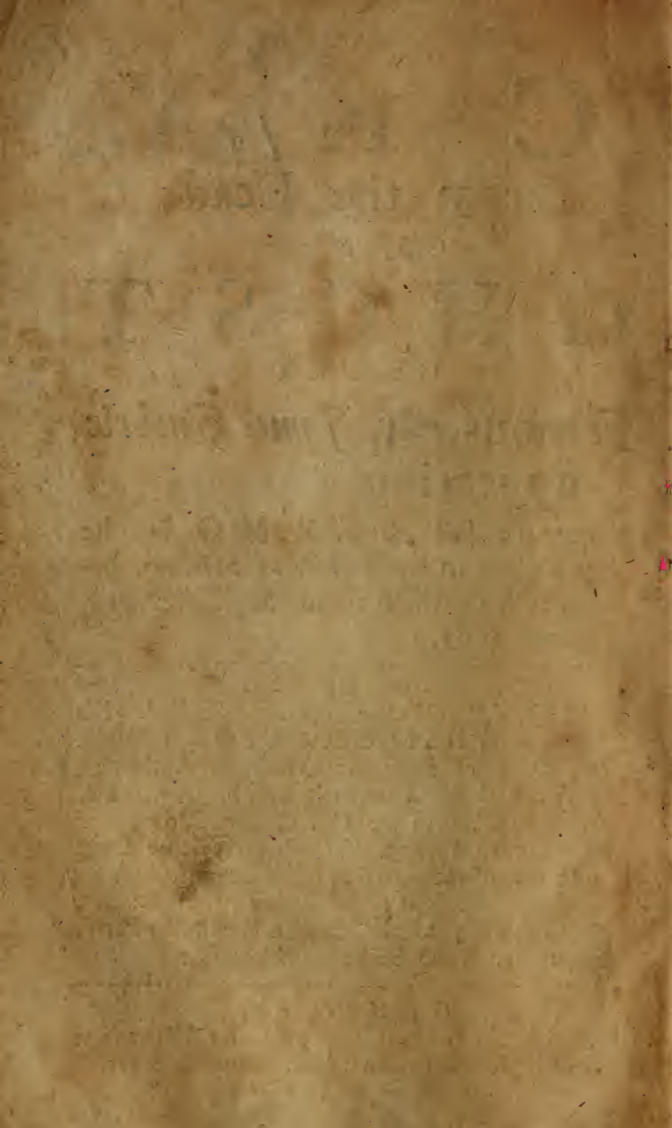
Famous Mr. *James Guthrie*
appearing.

Being the last **S E R M O N** he
preached in the Pulpit of *Stirling*, be-
fore his Martyrdom at *Edinburgh*,
June 1661.

To which is added,
His Last **S P E E C H** upon the Scaffold. His
Ten **C O N S I D E R A T I O N S** anent
the Decay of Religion: With an Authentick
P A P E R sign'd and writ with his own Hand,
with Relation to the Call of Mr. **R O B E R T**
R U L E to *Stirling*. Which gives some Light
into the infamous Action of his being stoned, for
pushing Mr. **R U L E**'s Settlement in *Stirling*,
in Opposition to the Publick Resolution Party,
about five Years before his Execution.

G L A S G O W,

Printed by **WILLIAM DUNCAN**, for **WILLIAM**
GRAY Merchant in **LANERK**. **MDCCLXXXVIII.**



T O T H E

R E A D E R.

PERHAPS it may be thought somewhat strange, how a Sermon of that great and good Man Mr. *James Guthrie* once Minister of *Stirling*, should come abroad about seventy seven Years after his Death, he having been crown'd with Martyrdom in the Year 1661. The Occasion of its seeing the Light is as follows. *January* this same Year, I had Occasion to be in Company with my worthy and dear Father and Colleague Mr. *Alexander Hamilton* in the Manse of *Stirling*, a few Days before his departure to Glory. And having heard that the Sermon was in his Hand, I took Occasion to enquire at him about it. He told me, That it was not at present in his Custody, having lent it out to a Christian Friend about eighteen Miles distance, but allowed me to send for it, adding, That he would be well pleas'd it were published. I ask'd him further, of the Way he came by it? To which he replied, That for what he knew, it had lien in the Clofet of the Room where he and I were sitting, since Mr. *Guthrie's* Incumbency, until one Day he fell upon it, as he was turning over some old Papers, which had lien there he knew not how long.

SOME Days after Mr. *Hamilton's* Death, I wrote for it, according to his Direction, and had it sent to me accordingly. And that same authentick Copy writ, as I was told, by Mr. *Guthrie's* own Hand, goes to the Press. The only Reason of its lying so long in Obscurity beside me, is the Throng of other Work which necessarily devolved upon me in this Place, after the loss of my Brother Colleague, still intending when Time allowed, to say something by way of Preface: But the same Strait continuing upon me, I'm obliged after all, through the importunate Cries of many who have heard of it, to let it go with saying little or nothing. Only I regard it as a Piece of Honour put upon me in holy Providence, not only to be the unworthy Successor of that great Man; but the Publisher of the last Sermon that ever he preached in the Pulpit of *Stirling*: Where it is my Desire, the same Testimony of Jesus, for which he suffered unto Death, may be maintained unto the latest Posterity.

WHAT may be in the Womb of this Providence of the Resurrection of Mr. *Guthrie's* last Sermon in *Stirling*, after it has been so long buried with himself in the Dust and Rubbish, God only knows, and Time must discover: Only considering the Way of its Resurrection and Conveyance, it looks like a *Cry from the Dead* to the whole Land; but in a particular Manner, to the Congregation of *Stirling*, upon whose Watch-tower it was delivered.

I have thought the Manner of the Conveyance of this Sermon to publick View at this Time of Day, one of the curious Links of the great Chain of Divine Providence. The Reverend Mr. *Alexander Hamilton* when he was but a Youth at the College

College of *Edinburgh*, from a just Regard he had to the Memory of Mr. *Guthrie*, and the Cause in which he suffered, was excited at the Peril of his Life to take down with his own Hand Mr. *Guthrie's* Head from the *Netherbow-Port* of *Edinburgh*, where it had stood as a publick Spectacle for about Twenty seven or Twenty eight Years. The very same Person is ordered Thirty eight Years thereafter to succeed him in the Ministry, and uphold his Testimony in the Pulpit of *Stirling* for the Space of Twelve Years. And altho' a good many Ministers, both of the Presbyterian and Episcopal Perswasion had possessed the Manse of *Stirling* since the Death of Mr. *Guthrie*; yet none of them are directed to discover his Farewell Sermon in *Stirling*, until the same Hand is imployed, which was honoured to take down his Head, and to give it a decent and honourable Burial.

I make no doubt, but the above Remark will appear whimsical and contemptible, as well as the Sermon it self, in the Eyes of a Generation of Men in our Day, *who are wise in their own Eyes*: But whatever may be the Sentiments of Men, whose *Minds the God of this World hath blinded*; yet the Work of the Lord is honourable and glorious, and will be sought out of all them that have Pleasure therein. *Who so is wise, and observeth these things, even they shall understand the loving Kindness of the Lord.* But how awful is the Certification to those, who shut their Eyes and Ears against the Appearances of God in his providential Dispensations? P^sal. xxviii. 5. *Because they regard not the Works of the Lord, nor the Operations of his Hand, he shall destroy them, and not build them up.*

As some have been longing and crying for the Publication of this Sermon; so I'm apt to believe,
some

some others will wish, that it and the other Papers of the worthy Author which come along with it, had been buried in Silence for ever. Neither needs this appear strange. His Testimony when alive, tormented the Men who then dwelt upon Earth to that Degree, as to stone this great Seer in *Israel*, and afterward to imbrue their Hands in his Blood: And therefore, it cannot be very easie or pleasant to those who are treading in the same Steps, by attempting the Burial of that Cause and Work of Reformation for which he suffered Martyrdom, to hear his Voice crying from under the Altar, or his dying Testimony again staring them openly in the Face.

I make no doubt to say, It was the Testimony of Jesus for which this faithful Martyr Mr. *James Guthrie* suffered. What that Testimony was, will partly cast up from the following Papers, all of them compiled by him, when drawing nigh to Eternity. The Sermon was preached, *August* 19th, 1660. and he imprisoned the *Thursday* thereafter. His Paper, intituled, *Considerations anent the Danger of Religion, and the Work of Reformation, &c.* was published by himself that very same Year. The third Paper is his Speech upon the Scaffold the Year following. By these and his other Papers and Contendings, contained in Mr. *Woodrow's* History, *he being dead, yet speaketh* unto the living. And it will be easie for the judicious and serious *Reader*, to discern who are in our Day bearing up, and who are bearing down, and burying the Cause for which he contended unto Blood.

T H E R E is a loud Cry raised against a few Ministers, who are associated together for Reformation, as if they were Schismaticks and Separatists,

tists, tho' they were at first shut out and separate from their Brethren, because they could not abandon the Word of their Testimony, emitted for the Covenanted Reformation of *Scotland*, sealed with the Blood of this and many other Worthies. But, in my humble Opinion, these only are to be deem'd Separatists, be they few or many, who separate from the Truth, and who do not hold the Head Christ Jesus, and the Order he hath established in his House. It has been made evident in a printed Act and Testimony, wherein the present Judicatories, and the whole Land, have departed from that Truth and Order. The only Thing demanded by these Brethren in order to a harmonious Coalition, is the Reformation of these Corruptions, and a purging out of these Scandals by which the whole Lump is in hazard of being leavened. In stead of a Compliance with so just and reasonable a Demand; further and higher Steps of Defection are every Year gone into, and Measures laid by the last Assembly for burying them and their Testimony both. Whither this be a holding fast Deceit, and a refusing to return to the Lord, is easie to judge. And in this Case the Command is plain, Jer. xv. 19. *Let them return unto thee, but return not thou unto them.*

WHEN the Reformation of Corruptions, and the purging out of evident Scandals is the only Condition demanded, what can be the Reason that it is not granted? One of the two it must needs be, *viz.* either because the Judicatories will not; or else because they cannot reform. If it be because they will not, they are to be withdrawn from as Wicked. If it be because they cannot, or want Power, it says, The Keys of Discipline is taken from them, and that they are not Christ's Officers

Officers and Stewards. The Discipline of Christ's Appointment must needs be a sufficient Means for the Preservation and Reformation of his own House. In both these Cases, the judicious *Owen* is of Opinion, a Church is to be separate from. The Reason is plain, because She is separate from the Head, whom we are to hold at any Rate, tho' it were to the loss of Communion with the whole World.

I'm apt to think, that the two Horns of the above Dilemma, are sufficient to overthrow Mr. *Currie's* voluminous Essay upon Separation. By which, in the Opinion of many, he has destroyed these Things which formerly he built up. But the Fallacy and Weakness of his Reasonings, and the Injuries he has done, both to Acts of Assemblies, and particular Authors, I hope, in a short Time, may be sufficiently exposed. Had I been favoured with a Sight of the Manuscript before Publication, and a few Hours Converse with my Dear and Worthy Brother, according to wonted Intimacy and Freedom, without boasting, I perswade my self, it had never seen the Light. I value the Man, I'm sorry for his Conduct; and pray for his Recovery. But want of Time, as was hinted above, and fear of swelling the Pamphlet, obliges me to forbear several other Things I inclin'd to say.

T H A T the same Spirit of God, and of Glory, which enabled the worthy Author of the following Papers to contend unto Death, for the Royal Prerogatives of his great Master, the only Head, King, and Law-giver of his Church, may in the perusal of his following Testimonies, enter into the Soul of every Reader, is the Prayer and Desire of him who is

Stirling, Aug. 14.
1738.

Thine in the Work of the Gospel
of Christ Jesus,
EBENEZER ERSKINE.

A
S E R M O N

Preached at STIRLING

By Mr. James Guthrie,

On the Sabbath-Day in the Forenoon, being the 19. of August, 1660. Upon the 22. Verse of the 14. Chapter of *Matthew*. He did also read the 23. and 24. Verses of the same Chapter: but had not Occasion to preach any more: he being imprisoned the *Thursday* thereafter.

Text. * MATTH. xiv. Chap. 22, 23, 24. Verses
And straightway Jesus constrained his Disciples to get into a Ship, and to go before him unto the other side, while he sent the Multitudes away.

23. *And when he had sent the Multitudes away, he went up into a Mountain apart to pray; and when the Evening was come, he was there alone.*

24. *But the Ship was now in the midst of the Sea, tossed with Waves: for the Wind was contrary.*

IT is of Purpose, and by Choice, in reference to the Condition and Trial of these Times, we have resolved, through the Lord's Assistance,

* *Mark* vi. 46. *John* vi. and 16. Verse.

to speak somewhat of this * Piece of Trial, and of the Storm wherewith the Disciples of our Lord Jesus Christ were exercised at Sea, and the rather we have chosen to speak somewhat of these Word, because they were the choice of a very precious and worthy Man, to speak of in a Day of Trial, I mean, of that eminent Servant of God, JOHN KNOX, whom the Lord did help to be a most eminent Instrument of the Work of Reformation in the Church; we shall not much stand on any particular unfolding of the Branches of the Text, but take these as they ly in order. The Thing we desire you first to look to, is, How the Story that is recorded in these Verses, is knit with these that go before, for we will find them knit together by many of the Evangelists, *viz.* the Story of the glorious Miracles wrought by Jesus Christ the Lord, in feeding so many Thousands of People with a few Loaves, and a few little Fishes, after this that sad Trial which the Disciples met with at Sea: They are knit together by the Evangelist *Matthew, Mark, and John*, after that the Lord Jesus Christ had preached to the People and his Disciples, and had fed many Thousands with a few Loaves, and a few Fishes, and had manifested much of his Power and Glory, (*He constrains his Disciples to get into a Ship, and to go before him unto the other side, while he sent the Multitude away*) he sends his Disciples to the Sea, and the Multitude away, that they should not for a Season hear any more of his Doctrine, and see any more of his Miracles.

THAT we may lay a Foundation for somewhat for your Edification. *First*, It may be enquired, *Why it is that he sends away both his Disciples and the Multitude at that Time, and would have*

* The Causes of his choicing of this Text.

have an Interruption of his Doctrine and Miracles, when he sends his Disciples to the Sea, and the Multitude to their own Home? If we look the other Evangelists, we will find the Causes there enough, Mark vi. 52. the Cause is given there, why he thus exercised his Disciples, (For they considered not the Miracle of the Loaves, for their Hearts were hardened.) Albeit, the Lord Jesus Christ had revealed much of his Power and Glory in the Miracle of the Loaves; yet his Disciples did not duly consider thereof: Therefore he would needs Exercise them with a Storm, and a Tempest at Sea, that they might both be Taught in the Knowledge of their own Weakness, and also might be better School'd in the Faith of his Power and Glory. The Reason why *he sent the Multitude away*, is set down in the Gospel written by *John, Chap. vi. 26.* When the Multitude comes again, *Verily, verily, I say unto you, Ye seek me, not because ye saw the Miracles, but because ye did eat of the Loaves, and were filled.* Compare it with that in the 15. Verse, *When Jesus Christ therefore perceived that they would come and take him by force, to make him a King, he departed again into a Mountain himself alone.* He knew that for all that they had seen and heard of his Word and Miracles, they were of a very carnal Disposition, and seeking to establish to themselves carnal Prosperity and Peace: Therefore he sent them away for a Time.

FROM the Connection of these two Histories, and from the Scope of the whole, we offer you one Point of Doctrine; That the Lord Jesus Christ is oft Times, and ordinarily pleased after special Manifestations of his Power and Glory in his Church, and amongst his People, to exercise them with special pieces of Trial, and Troubles, and Storms.

(4)

Storms. After his doing of great Work for their Comfort, he is ordinarily pleased, to raise great and dreadful Storms and Tempests, for their Exercise and Trial. So here, when he hath in a most comfortable, and kindly way, banqueted them, and revealed much of his Power and Love in so doing, he sends them a Storm and Tempest, on the back of it, and will have an Interruption of his Doctrine and Miracles for a Time, wherein they are all like to be drowned.

1st Instance. There are many Instances in the Word, of the Lord's dealing thus; look in the Books of *Moses*, what follows on the back of that glorious Deliverance, that the Lord gave to the People of *Israel* out of *Egypt*; they are exercised 40 Years in the Wilderness, in which they had many a sad Day; ere they entred the Land of *Canaan*.

2d Inst. THE like we may see in the Church of *Israel*, *1 Sam.* The Lord gave a great Deliverance from the *Philistines* by the Ministry of his Servant *Samuel*, and a glorious blessed work of Reformation there was, but all that was again destroyed by the Hand of *Saul*, and Persecution raised against the Church of God.

3d Inst. A third Instance ye will find, if ye will read the History of the Reign of *Hezekiah* and *Manasseh* Kings of *Judah*, as it is recorded in the second Book of *Chronicles*, there was a great Reformation in the Days of *Hezekiah*, A Covenant sworn by the King, Princes, Priests, and the whole Body of the Land; All Corruption cast out, the pure Worship and Ordinances of God set up, but there was a dreadful Trial by the Hand of *Sennacherib*; so scarcely was *Hezekiah* well in his Grave, till *Manasseh* succeeds in his Room, and brings in Corruption and Persecution, both at once.

4th Inst. A fourth Instance was in the Days of *Josiah*, how much of the Power, and Glory of the Lord is manifested; but how sad a Trial comes on the Back of it, that the Church seems to be wholly defaced by the King of *Babylon*.

5th Inst. A fifth Instance we will find, after the Return of *Israel* out of *Babylon*; in the *4th* of *Ezra*, the Foundation of the Lord's House is laid: But in a little while the Work is interrupted, (till the second Year of *Darius* the King) by the Derision and Enmity of wicked Men,

6th Inst. A like Instance you shall also find in the New Testament; look what a Length our blessed LORD brought the Work of the Gospel, but what follows in the 16. of *John*, 31. and 32. verses, *Do ye now believe? Behold the hour cometh, yea, is now come, that ye shall be scattered, every man to his own, and shall leave me alone.* And he is crucified, and laid in his Grave, and a Stone laid on the Grave's Mouth, and little Appearance that ever there should have been more mention of him, in the Land of the Living.

7th Inst. THEN look another Instance in the Days of the Apostles in the 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5, Chapters of the *Acts*, what a blessed Reformation there was, but in the Close of the *6th* Chapter, and in the Beginning of the *8th*, ye see what a sad Interruption and Scattering is in the Church, and a great Persecution raised against it.

8th Inst. AND as there are many Instances in the Word, so there are many Instances in the Story of the Church, many great Things were done by the Apostles, and a glorious Reformation there was in the bringing in of the *Gentiles*; but how dreadful a Persecution is raised through all the World

9th Inst. AND there is a notable Instance, when the Lord began to reform the Church from
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the Darkneſs of *Poperſy*, by that worthy Inſtrument *Luther*: But ſhortly after, did not *Charles* the fifth raiſe a cruel War, againſt all the Princes of *Germany*, and raiſed cruel Edicts againſt all that clave to the Church.

10th Inſt. A N D alſo, in the Days of King *Edward* the ſixth, That good Prince, what a glorious Work was in *England*; but few Years after that godly Prince died, Queen *Mary* ſucceeds, brings in *Poperſy*, and raiſes a bitter Perſecution againſt the Saints of God.

11th Inſt. A N D, ye cannot be ſo great Strangers to your own Condition at Home; How ſad an Interruption the Work of Reformation met with, from the Prelates not long ago.

So that there is nothing more ordinary in the Church, than after the Lord has communicate himſelf in a ſpecial way in his Power and Glory, than to exerciſe them with ſad Storms and Tempeſts on the Back of it.

C O N C E R N I N G this Diſpenſation, we would firſt, enquire a little into the Grounds and Reaſons of it, why the Lord ſees it fit to do ſo? Next, into the Kinds of it, or in what ſeveral Ways it is, that he ſees it fit ſo to do?

F O R the Reaſons, Grounds and Cauſes of it, we ſhall not ſpeak of many, though many might be ſpoken of, but ſhortly touch ſome of the moſt common and obvious.

1ſt Reaſon. F I R S T, The Lord makes ſuch a Changing of his Dealing, with his Church, for the chaſtiſing of their Sin, and correcting of their Iniquity. A People to whom he manifeſts himſelf in his Power and Glory, and Mercy and Truth, do not always behave themſelves as they ought to do, but even while he is dealing kindly with them they do many ways provoke him to Wrath. Therefore God
for

tor correcting their Sin, and chastising their Iniquity; brings Troubles and Storms upon them. In the 99. *Pfalm*, the Lord is brought to take Vengeance on the Inventions of his People in the Wilderness; that ye may understand this the better, look the 78. *Pfalm*, which is a clear Commentary to this, where his Rod where with he punished that People in the Wilderness, and delayed their Entrance into *Canaan*, and their Sin both are set down: Their Unstedfastness in the Lord's Covenant. Ye may look some of the Proofs of these Sins.

1st Sin. FIRST, In the 10. and 11. verses of *Pfalm* 78. *They kept not the Covenant of God, and refused to walk in his Law: And forgot his Works, and Wonders that he had shewed them.* They were unstedfast in the Lord's Covenant in the 19. and 20. Chapter of *Exodus*, They entred in a most solemn Covenant with God, that all of them undertook to stand to, and to prove faithful therein, but they kept not his Covenant, but dealt deceitfully in it, therefore he brought such Storms on them in the Wilderness, and so long suspended their Entrance in the promised Land.

2d Sin. A second Sin is, in the 18. verse they sinned yet more, *and tempted him in their Hearts, by asking Meat for their Lusts.* They are not satisfied, with the things that God has allowed them, but lusted after strange things, and became lustful in their Appetites: Therefore God is wroth, and thus exerciseth them in the Wilderness,

3d Sin. A third Sin is, in the 22. verse, their Diffidence and Unbelief; they believed not God, and trusted not in his Salvation, they put tempting Questions, concerning his Power and Goodness in the 19. verse, *Can God furnish a Table in the Wilderness?* Therefore he thus exercised them with Storms.

4th Sin. [A fourth Sin is, They despised and undervalued the precious *Manna*, which God sent down from Heaven, for feeding of them, Numb. xxi. 5. *Our Souls lothed this light Bread.*

5th Sin. A fifth Sin is, Their murmuring, grudging and repining against God.

6th Sin. A Sixth Sin is, Their Complaint of coming out of *Egypt*; their rebelling and speaking of a Captain to return back again.

7th Sin. THE last Sin is, Their corrupting the Worship of God, and making a golden Calf. And because of these Sins, the Lord is angry, and correcteth and chastises them forty Years long in the Wilderness.

2d Reason. A second Reason is, The Lord's bringing sad Storms on the back of glorious Manifestations of himself in his Word and Works, is, for purging of his People. As he will correct them, and have them to know the bitterness of their Sin, so he will have them to be purged of it. There is a sad Trial in the II. of *Daniel*, and this is given as the Reason of it; To purge, to try, and to make white, In the 35. Verse, *And some of them of Understanding shall fall, to try them, and to purge, and to make them white, even to the time of the End: Because it is yet for a time appointed.* There is in the Church and People of God, much Dross, therefore he sees it necessary, they be put to the Fire, for purging away of their Dross.

3d Reason. A third Reason, wherefore the Lord brings sad Storms, on the Back of glorious Manifestations, of himself, is, for discovering and bringing forth the Hypocrites, and such as are unsound, *Daniel xi. 34.* Many cleave to the Lord's People by Flattery: Especially, it's so, when the Lord is eminently appearing, and revealing himself gloriously in his Word and Works; Many then undertake a
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Profession in whose Hearts there is no Sincerity and Truth; many then cleave to the Cause and Work of God by Flattery, which his Soul cannot endure; therefore he brings a winnowing Fan, and lets them up before the Wind, that he may know who is Chaff and who is Corn. *Psal. cxxv. 4. and 5. verses. He doth good to those that are upright in Heart: but as for such as turn aside to crooked ways, the Lord shall lead them forth with the workers of Iniquity.* Therefore for Discovery of such, he sends sad Storms on the back of Reformation.

ANOTHER Reason of the Lord's bringing sad Storms and Tempests on his People, on the back of glorious Manifestations of himself, is, that he may prove and take a Trial of the Integrity, Faith, and Patience of his Saints; and in trying of them to purchase Glory to himself, and a Name to them. *1. Pet. i. and 7. That the Trial of your Faith (being much more precious than of Gold that perisheth, though it be tried with Fire,) might be found unto Praise, and Honour, and Glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ.*

THERE is also a Reason, concerning Adversaries, which we shall not now meddle with.

BUT we come to the second Point, how it is, or in what several sorts of ways it is, that the Lord is pleased thus to dispense, I mean, to send Storms and Trials on his Servants and People, immediately on the back of some glorious Appearance, and notable Works of Kindness and Mercy amongst them. There might be a great many ways named, how the Lord is pleased to do thus, we shall name only four generals.

1st. way, FIRST, he does it sometime by interrupting of his Work. Thus he did it in that place cited before, *Exra iv.* After the Foundation of the Lord's House is laid, a Company of malignant Men, Enemies to the poor People of God, and his
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Work,

Work, who are exceeding ill satisfied, that the Work of God should prosper, they come by all Means to interrupt the Work of God, and when they could not prevail by Flattery, they go to the King of *Persia*, and load the People of God with false Aspersions, that they were about to rebel, &c. by which Suggestions, they obtain Letters from the King, commanding them to cease building of the Temple, and when the Copy of the King's Letters was read, they made them to cease by Force and Power, &c.

2d. Way, A second way is, by Corruption, when he suffers evil Instruments, not only to make an Interruption, but to make a Corruption so to speak, and to mingle these with the Purity of his Ordinances and Worship. God raises up ill Instruments, to make People lick up the Vomit of these Corruptions, which have been formerly cast out. There had been a blessed Reformation in the Days of *Hezekiah*, and all Corruption cast out, but all that Corruption, is brought in again in the Days of *Manasseh*, and more and worse than ever had been before.

3d. Way, A third way is, by Destruction, so to speak; Not only, when the Work of God is interrupted, and corrupted, but when it is destroyed and taken away. There is in the Days of *Zedekiah*, a total destroying of the Temple, and all the Work.

THE fourth way is, by Persecution to these that cleave to the Truth and Work of God; Thus it was in the Days of the Apostles, *Acts v.* They fall on the Ministers of the Lord's House, and slays some of them with the Sword, and puts others in Prison; so that they could not preach the Word in *Jerusalem*. Some one, or all, of these ways, the Lord sets on Foot such Dispensations.

1st Use.

1st Use. WE would now speak somewhat of the Use we would make of it. And, *First*, It says this to us, that we of this Church and Nation, would be looking for a Storm; the Lord hath been graciously pleased to make glorious Discoveries of his Power and Mercy in his Word and Works amongst us, now thir many Years, and even on that Account, we would be looking for a Storm; and we shall give you these few Reasons wherefore we would look for it.

1st Reason. BECAUSE (as I told you) it's ordinary with God in his Dispensations to his People, to knit these two together, with great Manifestations of his Mercy, to bring Troubles, Tempests and Trials, as ye will find frequently in the Word.

2d Reasf. A Second Reason wherefore we would look for a Storm, is, because we are guilty of these Sins, that bring on Storms on the Church, and People of God. We have told you what Storms came on *Israel* in the Wilderness, after their coming out of *Egypt*; and we have told you their Sin that brought them on; unstedfastness in the Lord's Covenant, murmuring against God, tempting of God, Diffidence and Unbelief; despising and loathing of the precious Manna, their rebelling against God, their corrupting of the Worship and Ordinances of God, &c. See if we be not Guilty of all these Sins: Have we not been unstedfast in the Covenant? Is not the Obligation thereof in great Measure forgotten? and who has remembered to perform his Vow unto the Lord, almost in any thing, either in the National, or Solemn League and Covenant? Are we not guilty of lusting, and not satisfied with the Things that God hath given us, but the Heart is carried away with the Lust of the Eyes, the Lust of the Flesh, and the Pride

of Life? Are we not guilty of repining against God? Are we not guilty of despising and loathing the precious Manna of the Gospel? Are we not guilty of Misbelief and Tempting of God? Are we not guilty of corrupting of the Ordinances of God and spoiling many of his precious Truths? And are there not many speaking of making a Captain to return again to *Egypt*, and to involve themselves in the Bondage of all these Corruptions which have been formerly cast out, and engaged against in the Covenant; and if for these things God brought Storms on them, how shall we avoid them.

Reas. 3d. A third Thing that says there is a Storm coming, is, because these amongst whom he doth eminently manifest himself he doth also eminently try them, that he may bring forth their Faith and Patience. We have had Trials, but none of us have resisted unto Blood, they have been but fresh Water Trials: The Trials are not answerable to these eminent Dispensations enjoyed. We have but run with the Foot-men, and have not yet contended with the Horse-men, we have not yet swim'd in the swellings of Jordan, *Jeremiah 12. 5.*

Reas. 4th. A fourth Thing that says that there is a Storm coming, is, because that there is among us a Huge Multitude of hollow hearted Men joyned in the Covenant with treacherous Hearts, the Lord hath brought forth many of these already, but it's like their will be more visible Discoveries, that will make Men disown and disavow the Covenant of God.

Reas. 5. ANOTHER Thing that says ye would look for a Storm, is, because that is already begun: The Wind of the Lord's Fan is already begun to blow; severals who were eminent in the
Work

Work of the Lord are imprisoned; several Ambassadors of the Lord's House cast out; and doth not this say that their is a Storm coming.

Reas. 6. And Lastly, THIS says, that ye would look for a Storm, because all the wicked, and these that have been Enemies to the People of God are already lifting up the Head; and that is ay the prognostick of a Storm.

Use 2d. THE second Use is. As we would look for a Storm so we would not stumble at it when it comes, because it is the Work of our God, it's the ordinary path Road, that the Lord uses to take or give in his Dispensations to his Church. There are several sorts of Stumblings that Folk fall in, when the Lord is pleased to bring Storms on his Church and People, all of them we would beware of.

Stumbling 1st. First the Stumbling of the Child of *Israel* that we read of, when Storms were like to rise, they Stumble so far as to speak of quitting of the Work of the Lord, and not marching on further to take Possession of the promised Land: And they speak of making a Captain to return back again to *Egypt*: We would fear that that shall be the Stumbling of many in thir Times, that they shall take a Resolution to quite all the Work of God, and the Work of Reformation, and be content to be carried back again to these Corruptions from whence they were (by the Mercy of God) delivered. That is a most dreadful Stumbling; we warn you of it, and we beseech you in the Name of the Lord to take heed to it.

Stumble. 2d. A second Sort of Stumbling that we would beware of, is, the Stumbling of *Doeg the Edomite*, 2 *Sam.* 22. when a Storm was like to arise upon the Church and People of God, he Stumbles so far at these Things as he falls to be an
Accuser

Accuser of those that had been employed in the Work of God and walked in their Integrity, to accuse honest holy *David*; and from an Accuser came to be an open Persecuter of the People of God: We would take heed, that for currying of Favour to our selves, we be not Accusers of others; this is the way of many in these Nations, they know no other way of currying of Favour to themselves, but by becoming Accusers of the Saints of God; look to it, for in a while ye will turn open Persecuters; when none would fall on the Priests of the Lord, *Doeg the Edomite* (ere he lost the Favour he had gotten) would fall on them.

3^d *Stumbl.* A third Sort of Stumbling that we would beware of, is, The Stumbling of *Shebna*, Treasurer or Scribe, *Isa. 22.* When *Sennacherib* invaded *Judah*, though he pretended Friendship, yet he in a secret way complied with *Sennacherib*, and so far as lay in him supplanted good King *Hezekiah*, and the People of God; we would take heed of that.

4th *Stumbl.* ANOTHER Sort of Stumbling that we would beware of, is, That Stumbling of *Demas*, *2 Tim. 4. 10.* who when a Storm arises, he thought it meet to shift for himself, and imbrace this present World. *Demas has forsaken us*, (says *Paul*) *having loved this present World, and is departed unto Thessalonica.* Look we pray you in this Place, to that that is most like to be your Temptation, *viz.* The Lust of the Things of the World; if ye will prove stedfast in the Cause that ye have owned, and therefore we would study to have our Hearts loosed from these Things that will make you Stumble in a stormy Day.

5th *Stumbl.* ANOTHER sort of Stumbling that we would beware of, is, The Stumbling of *Baruch*, *Jer.*

Fer. 45. 3. when he and *Jeremiah* were like to be put to Death, for the Cause that they were engaged unto, he fainted and was afraid, *Wo is me (says he) for the Lord has added Grief to my Sorrow, I fainted in my sighing, and I find no rest.* We would take heed that we Faint not, neither be of a fearful Heart, own the Cause of God, and Interest of Jesus Christ. Yea, that carnal Fear carries *Peter* so far as to deny his Lord and Master.

6th Stumbl. WE would beware of the Stumbling of *Judas*, who (when he got not the Thing he would have been at, by the following of Jesus Christ) he resolves to betray his Master. Look that Disappointments in following the Cause of Christ, make you not turn treacherous unto it.

And *Lastly*, WE would beware of the Stumbling of the Men of *Judah*, *Fer. 44. Jeremiah* would have had them staying in the Land of *Judah*, and they would not, but would go down to the Land of *Egypt*. And they tell him, *It was better with us (say they) when we burnt Incense to the Queen of Heaven, and poured out Drink-offerings unto her, for then had we plenty of Victuals, and were well, and saw no Evil.* We would take heed that nothing make us to call in Question the Cause of God, that we have been engaged into.

3d Use. A third Use, If it be so, that Tempests and Storms are 'like to blow, then we would be careful to prepare for them.

A few Things we would name, that we would look to for preparing of us.

First, WE would study, to have our Ship as light of all unnecessary Burdens, as we can; I mean, all Things of a present World, all Things beside

beside God, and our precious Soul; we would have as little Weight of these Things on our Spirits as we may, for they will sink our Ship in a Storm.

2ly. WE would be careful to make Friendship with Jesus Christ that blessed Pilot, that we may get him in the Ship with us, for we are not able to steer our Ship in a Storm.

3ly. WE would be careful to keep a low Sail, to have our Spirits humble and low before the Lord, for the humble Soul is most like to hold out, when the Wind and Storm blows.

4ly. WE would be careful to get the Knowledge of the Cause that we profess; for indeed a dark Night is ill to sail in, when the Wind blows, and when there are quick Sands before us,

And *Lastly*, WE would be careful to have our ship well ballasted with the Faith and Patience of the Saints.

Use 4. WE would consider what grounds of Consolation we shall have for strengthening of our Hearts, if we bide fast by the Cause of Jesus Christ, for the bideing' out of a Storm, if so be God be pleased to bring it on us.

WE might name many, only at this time take these few. The first Ground of Encouragement, is, that you have a good Cause, I mean the Cause of God, and the Interest of Jesus Christ, speak against it who will, forsake it who will, Reproach and Persecute it who will, Doubtless, Good is the Cause, the Cause is worth the contending for, worth the Suffering any Thing that can come for it.

2ly. ANOTHER Thing to be a Ground of Comfort to us, is, as we have a good Cause, so we have a good Captain too, Jesus Christ the Lord, who is the Captain and Prince of Salvation,
who

who was never put to the Worse, and who sits at the Right-hand of the Father, and will Reign there till he make all his Enemies his Foot-stool.

3^{ly}. ANOTHER Thing to be a Ground of Consolation to us, is, as we have a good Cause, and a good Captain, so we have good Company too, all in whose Hearts the Fear of the Lord, is in these three Nations, yea more, we have all the Saints that have lived since the Beginning of the World; for all the Cause they have owned and suffered for, is one and the same, though there be sundry Branches of it; we have also the blessed Promises of God, and we have the Experience of all the Saints; we have also our own Experiences, and many things more of that kind. O that we knew our Priviledges, for strengthening of our Hearts to be sincere and stedfast in his work. And so we close.

F I N I S.







*Mr. James Guthrie's last
Speech upon the Scaffold,
June 1. 1661.*



EN and Brethren, I fear many of you are come hither to gaze, rather than to be edified by the Carriage and last Words of a dying Man: But if any have an Ear to hear, as I hope some of this great Confluence have, I desire your Audience to a few Words. I am come hither to lay down this earthly Tabernacle and mortal Flesh of mine, and, I bless God, through his Grace, I do it willingly, and not by constraint. I say, I suffer willingly: If I had been so minded, I might have made a Diversion, and not been a Prisoner; but being conscious to my self of nothing worthy of Death, or of Bonds, I would not stain my Innocency with

with the Suspicion of Guiltiness, by withdrawing: Neither have I wanted Opportunities and Advantages to escape since I was a Prisoner, not by the Fault of my Keepers, (God knoweth) but otherwise; but neither for this had I Light or Liberty, least I should reflect upon the Lord's Name, and offend the Generation of the Righteous: And if some Men have not been mistaken, or dealt deceitfully in telling me so, I might have avoided not only the Severity of the Sentence, but also had much Favour and Countenance, by complying with the Courses of the Times. But I durst not redeem my Life with the loss of my Integrity; God knoweth, I durst not; and that since I was a Prisoner, he hath so holden me by the Hand, that he never suffered me to bring it in debate in my inward Thoughts, much less to propone or hearken to any Overture of that kind. I did judge it better to suffer, than to sin; And therefore, I am come hither, to lay down my Life this Day, and I bless God, I die not as a Fool; not that I have any thing wherein to glory in my self: I acknowledge that I am a Sinner, yea, one of the greatest and vilest that has owned a Profession of Religion; and one of the most unworthy that has preached the Gospel. My Corruptions have been strong and many, and have made me a Sinner in all Things, yea, even in following my Duty; And therefore, Righteousness have I none of my own, all is vile. But I do believe *that Jesus Christ came into the World to save Sinners, whereof I am chief*: Through Faith in his Righteousness and Blood have I obtained Mercy; and through him, and in him alone, have I the hope of a blessed Conquest and
Victory

Victory over Sin and Satan, and Hell and Death, and that I shall attain unto the Resurrection of the just, and be made partaker of eternal Life. *I know in whom I have believed, and that he is able to keep that which I have committed unto him against that Day.* I have preached Salvation through his Name, and as I have preached, so do I believe, and do commend the Riches of his free Grace and Faith in his Name unto you all, as the only Way whereby ye can be saved.

A N D, as I bless the L O R D, that I die not as a Fool; so also, that I die not for Evil-doing. Not a few of you may haply judge that I suffer as a Thief, or as a Murderer, or as an Evil-doer, or as a Busie-body in other Mens Matters. It was the Lot of the L O R D J E S U S C H R I S T himself, and hath been of many of his precious Servants and People, to suffer by the World as Evil-doers; and as my Soul scareth not at it, but desireth to rejoyce in being brought into Conformity with my blessed Head, and so blessed a Company, in this Thing; So I desire and pray, that I may be to none of you to Day upon this Account a Stone of Stumbling, and a Rock of Offence. Blessed is he that shall not be offended at J E S U S C H R I S T, and his poor Servants and Members, because of their being condemned as Evil-doers by the World. G O D is my Record, that in these Things for which Sentence of Death hath passed against me, I have a good Conscience. I bless G O D, they are not Matters of Compliance with Sectaries, or Designs, or Practises, against His Majesty's Person or Government, or the Person and Government of his Royal Father:

ther: My Heart (I bleſs G O D) is conſcious to no Diſloyalty, nay, Loyal I have been, and I commend it to you to be Loyal, and Obedient in the L O R D. True Piety is the Foundation of true Loyalty: A wicked Man may be a Flatterer, and a Time-ſerver, but he will never be a Loyal Subject. But to return to my Purpoſe; the Matters for which I am condemned, are Matters belonging to my Calling and Function, as a Miniſter of the Goſpel, ſuch as the Diſcovery and re-proving of Sin, the preſſing and the holding faſt of the Path of G O D in the Covenant, and preſerving and carrying the Work of Religion, and Reformation according thereto, and denying to acknowledge the Civil Magiſtrate, as the proper competent immediate Judge in Cauſes Eccleſiaſtical: That in all theſe Things, (which G O D ſo ordering by his gracious Providence) are the Grounds of my Indiſtment and Death, I have a good Conſcience, as having walked therein according to the Light and Rule of G O D's Word, and as did become a Miniſter of the Goſpel.

I do alſo bleſs the L O R D, that I do not die as one not deſired. I know that by not a few, I neither have been, nor am deſired. It hath been my Lot to have been a Man of Contention and Sorrow; but it is my Comfort, that for my own Things I have not contended, but for *the Things of Jeſus Chriſt*, for what relateth to his Intereſt and Work, and the Well-being of his People. In order to the preſerving and promoting of theſe, I did proteſt againſt, and ſtood in Oppoſition unto theſe late Aſſemblies at St. *Andrews, Dundee,* and *Edinburgh*, and the Publick Reſolutions, for
bringing

bringing the Malignant Party into the Judicatories, and Armies of this Kingdom, conceiving the same contrary to the Word of G O D, and to our Solemn Covenant Engagements; and to be an in-let to the Defection, and to the Ruin, and Destruction of the Work of God. And it is now manifest to many Consciences, that I have not been therein mistaken, nor was not fighting against a Man of Straw: I was also desirous, and did use some poor Endeavours, to have the Church of G O D purged of insufficient and scandalous, and corrupt Ministers, and Elders; for these Things I have been mistaken by some, and hated by others: But I bless the L O R D, as I had the Testimony of my own Conscience, so I was and am therein approven in the Consciences of many of the L O R D's precious Servants and People; and however so little I may die desired by some, yet by these I know I do die desired, and their Approbation and Prayers, and Affection is of more value with me, than the Contradiction or Reproach, or Hatred of many others; the Love of the one, I cannot Recompense, and the Mistake or Hatred, or Reproach of the other, I do with all my Heart forgive; and wherein I have offended any of them, I do beg their Mercy and Forgiveness. I do from my Soul wish, that my Death may be profitable unto both, that the one may be confirmed and established in the straight Ways of the L O R D; and that the other, if the L O R D so will, may be convinced, and cease from these Things that are not good, and do not edifie but destroy.

ONE Thing I would warn you all of, That
G O D

G O D is wroth, yea, very wroth with *Scotland*, and threatneth to depart and remove his Candlestick. The Causes of his Wrath are many, and would to G O D it were not one great Cause, that Causes of Wrath are despised and rejected of Men. Consider the Cause that is recorded, *Jer. xxxvi.* and the Consequence of it, and tremble and fear. I cannot but also say, That there is a great Addition and Increase of Wrath; *First*, By that Deluge of Profanity that overfloweth all the Land, and hath Reins loosed unto it every-where, in so far that many have lost, not only all Use and Exercise of Religion, but even of Morality, and that common Civility that is to be found amongst the Heathen. *Second*, By that horrible Treachery and Perjury that is in the Matter of the Covenant, and Cause of G O D, and Work of Reformation: *Be astonished, O ye Heavens, at this, and be ye horribly afraid, and be ye very desolate, saith the Lord; for my People have committed two great Evils, they have forsaken me the Fountain of Waters, and hewed them out Cisterns, broken Cisterns, that can hold no Waters:* Shall he break the Covenant and prosper? *Shall the Throne of Iniquity have Fellowship with God, which frameth Mischief by a Law?* I fear the L O R D be about to bring a Sword on these Lands, which shall avenge the Quarrel of his Covenant. *Third*, Horrible Ingratitude, the L O R D after ten Years Oppression, and Bondage, hath broken the Yoke of Strangers from off our Necks: But what do we render unto him for this Goodness? Most of the Fruit of our Delivery is, to work Wickedness, and to strengthen our selves to do Evil. *Fourth*, A most dreadful Idolatry, and sacrificing
to

to the Creature, we have *changed the Glory of the incorruptible God, into the Image of corruptible Man*, in whom many have placed almost all their Salvation and Desire, and have turned that which might have been a Blessing unto us, (being kept in a due Line of Subordination under G O D) into an Idol of Jealousie, by preferring it before him. G O D is also wroth with a Generation of carnal, corrupt, Time-serving Ministers; I know and bear Testimony, that in the Church of *Scotland*, there is a true and faithful Ministry: Blessed be G O D, we have yet many, who study their Duty, and desire to be found Faithful to their L O R D and Master; and I pray you to Honour, and Reverence, and Esteem much of these for their Works sake; and I pray them to be encouraged in their L O R D and Master, who is with them, to make them as Iron Pillars and Brazen Walls, and as a strong, defended City in the faithful following of their Duty: But, Oh! that there were not too many, who mind *earthly Things*, and are *Enemies to the Cross of Jesus Christ*, who push with the Side and Shoulder, who strengthen the Hands of Evil-doers, who make themselves Transgressors; by studying to build again what they did formerly warrantably destroy; I mean Prelacy, and the Ceremonies, and the Service Book, a Mystery of Iniquity that works amongst us, whose Steps lead unto the House of the great Whore *Babylon, the Mother of Fornication*; or whosoever else he be that buildeth this *Jericho* again, let him take heed of the Curse of *Hiel*, the *Bethelite*, and of that flying Roll threatened, *Zech. v.* And let all Ministers take heed that they watch, and be steadfast in the Faith,

and quit themselves like Men, and be strong; and give faithful and seasonable Warning; concerning Sin and Duty. Many of the LORD's People do sadly complain of the Fainting and Silence of many Watchmen, and it concerneth them to consider what GOD calleth for at their Hands in such a Day: Silence now in a Watchman; when he is so much called to *speak*, and give his Testimony, upon the Peril of his Life, is doubtless a great Sin. The LORD open the Mouths of his Servants, to *speak* his Word with all Boldness, that Covenant breaking may be discovered and reprov'd, and that the Kingdom of JESUS CHRIST may not be supplanted, nor the Souls of his People be destroyed without a Witness. I have but a few Words more to add: All that are profane amongst you, I exhort them to Repentance, for the Day of the LORD's Vengeance hastneth, and is near; but there is yet a Door of Mercy open for you, if you will not despise the Day of Salvation. All that are Maligners, and Reproachers, and Persecutors of Godliness, and of such as live godly, take heed what ye do; it will be hard for you to kick against the Pricks; you make your selves the Butt of the LORD's Fury, and his flaming Indignation; if you do not cease from, and repent of all your hard Speeches and ungodly Deeds. All that are neutral, and indifferent, and lukewarm Professors, be zealous and repent, lest the LORD *speak you out of his Mouth*. You that lament after the LORD, and mourn for all the Abominations that are done in this City, and in the Land, and take Pleasure in the Stones and Dust of Zion, cast not away your Confidence, but be comforted, and

and encouraged in the LORD; he will yet appear to your Joy: GOD hath not cast away his People, nor Work in *Britain and Ireland*, I hope it shall once more revive by the Power of his Spirit, and take Root downward, and bear Fruit upward, and of this I am now confident. There is yet a holy Seed and precious Remnant, whom GOD will preserve, and bring forth: But how long or dark our Night may be, I do not know, the LORD shorten it for the sake of his Chosen. In the mean while, be ye patient, and *stedfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the Work of the LORD*, and in Love one to another; beware of Snares which are strowed thick; cleave to the Covenant and Work of Reformation; Do not decline the Cross of JESUS CHRIST, *choose rather to suffer Affliction with the People of GOD, than to enjoy the Pleasures of Sin for a Season, and account the Reproach of CHRIST greater Riches, than all the Treasures of the World.* Let my Death grieve none of you, it will be more profitable and advantagious both for me, and for you, and for the Church of GOD, and for CHRIST's Interest, and Honour, than my Life could have been. I forgive all Men the Guilt of it, and I desire you to do so also: *Pray for them that persecute you, and bless them that curse you; Bless, I say, and curse not.* I die in the Faith of the Apostles, and Primitive Christians, and Protestant Reformed Churches, particularly of the Church of *Scotland*, whereof I am a Member and Minister. I do bear my Witness and Testimony to the Doctrine, Worship, Discipline, and Government of the Church of *Scotland*, by Kirk-Sessions, Presbyteries,

Synods and General Assemblies; Popery, and Prelacy, and all the Trumpery of Service and Ceremonies, that wait upon them, I do abhor. I do bear my Witness unto the National Covenant of *Scotland*, and Solemn League and Covenant betwixt the three Kingdoms of *Scotland*, *England*, and *Ireland*: These Sacred, Solemn, Publick Oaths of G O D, I believe can be loosed, nor dispensed with, by no Person, nor Party, or Power, upon Earth; but are still binding upon these Kingdoms, and will be for ever hereafter; and are ratified, and sealed by the Conversion of many Thousand Souls, since our entering thereinto. I bear my Witness to the Protestation against the Contraverted Assemblies, and the Publick Resolutions, to the Testimonies given against the Sectaries, against the Course of Backsliding and Defection that is now on Foot in the Land, and all the Branches and Parts thereof, under whatsoever Name or Notion, or acted by whatsoever Party or Person. And in the last Place, I bear my Witness to the Cross of J E S U S C H R I S T, and that I never had Cause, nor have Cause this Day to repent, because of any Thing I have suffered, or can now suffer for his Name: I take G O D to Record upon my Soul, I would not exchange this Scaffold with the Palace or Mitre of the greatest Prelate in *Britain*. Blessed be G O D, who hath shewed Mercy, to such a Wretch, and hath revealed his Son in me, and made me a Minister of the everlasting Gospel, and that he hath deigned, in the midst of much Contradiction, from Satan and the World, to seal my Ministry upon the Hearts

of

of not a few of his People, and especially in the Station wherein I was last, I mean the Congregation, and Presbytery of *Stirling*; And I hope the LORD will visit that Congregation, and Presbytery once more, with faithful Pastors. GOD forgive the poor empty Man, that did there intrude upon my Labours, and hath made a Prey of many poor Souls, and exposed others to Reproach and Oppression, and a Famine of the Word of the LORD. GOD forgive the Misleaders of that Part of the poor People, who tempted them to reject their own Pastor, and to admit of Intruders; And the Father of Mercies pity that poor misled People, and the LORD visit the Congregation and Presbytery of *Stirling* once more with faithful Pastors, and grant that the Work, and People of GOD, may be revived through all *Britain*, and over all the World. JESUS CHRIST is my Light, and my Life, my Righteousness, my Strength, and my Salvation, and all my Desire: Him, O him, I do with all the Strength of my Soul commend unto you: *Blessed are they that are not offended in him; Blessed are they that trust in him. Bless him, O my Soul, from henceforth, even for ever. Rejoyce, rejoyce, all ye that love him, be patient, and rejoyce in Tribulation: Blessed are you, and blessed shall you be for ever and ever; everlasting Righteousness*

ousness and eternal Salvation is yours; All are yours, and ye are CHRIST's, and CHRIST is GOD's. Remember me, O LORD, with the Favour thou bearest to thy People; O visit me with thy Salvation, that I may see the Good of thy Chosen, that I may rejoyce in the Gladness of thy Nation, that I may Glōry with thine Inheritance. Now, let thy Servant depart in Peace, since mine Eyes have seen thy Salvation.





