

**A CROWN OF GLORY, THE
REWARD OF THE RIGHTEOUS,
MEDITATIONS UPON THE
VICISSITUDE AND UNCERTAINTY
OF ALL SUBLUNARY ENJOYMENTS**

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A Crown of Glory, the Reward of the Righteous, Meditations upon the Vicissitude and
Uncertainty of All Sublunary Enjoyments by Thomas Kenn

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THOMAS KENN

**A CROWN OF GLORY, THE
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A
CROWN *of* GLORY,
THE
Reward *of the* Righteous.
BEING
MEDITATIONS
UPON
The Vicissitude and Uncertainty of all
Sublunary Enjoyments;

VIZ.

- I HONOURS, RICHES, and PLEASURES.
- II. The Nature and Causes of AFFLICTIONS.
- III. The Great Benefit and Advantage of AFFLICTIONS.
- IV. Of Our Resignation to the WILL of GOD.

To which is ADDED,

A MANUAL of Devotions, for Times of
Trouble and Affliction.

ALSO,

*Meditations and Prayers for the Holy Communion,
Both Before, At, and After Receiving.*

WITH

Some General Rules and Directions for Our Daily Practice.

Composed for the Use of a Noble FAMILY.

By the Right Rev^d Dr. THOMAS KENN,
late Lord Bishop of Bath and Wells.

LONDON: Printed for A. BETTESWORTH, at
the Red-Lyon in Pater-Noster-Row. MDCCLXXV.



To * * * * *

S I R,



Ermit me, I beseech You, to lay at your Feet this small MANUAL, which has no other Design but the supporting of You under those Calamities which You have borne with so much Magnanimity, Patience, and Christian Resolution ; for I cannot conceive (whatever some may think) that Your being of another Persuasion than my self, can discharge me from my Duty to You. And I hope You will not the less regard what I have here written, because I profess my self, as I always did, to be a Member and an Unworthy Son of the Church of England : For as it has always been my Judgment, that he that Believes, Lives and Prays, according to the Rules that Christ has given us, is a True Christian, and a happy Man ; so I believe that the next Way

DEDICATION.

to Heaven is not to look after Controversy, but Conscience; and to spend our Zeal and Time not in being Contentious, but Religious: And therefore wheresoever I live in the Christian World, whether East or West, it is not my being a good Scholar that will make me happy, but a good Christian; not a Learned Disputant for Christ, but a Devout Servant to him: Nor the being of such or such a Party or Side in the Church, but a True Member of his Body.

AND if You would Vouchsafe to bear with me a little, I could easily demonstrate this to be the most safe Way: For, if I am Regenerated by the Holy Spirit; and made a Christian by true Baptism, believing the Scriptures; can it with any Colour of Reason be supposed that I shall suffer Damnation for not equally believing Traditions? And if I make Conscience to serve and worship GOD, can it be thought I shall perish for not worshipping Images? If I pray to GOD, as our Blessed Saviour hath taught us, saying, Our Father, &c. who can think I should incur the Sentence of Damnation for not Invocating Saints and Angels?
And

DEDICATION.

And if I receive the holy Communion of the Body and Blood of Christ in both Kinds, according to Christ's Institution, as even the Roman Church confesses; who can believe I shall be damned, because the Cup is taken away by a Council?

THESE things I urge with all Humility, only to let You see what Reason I have to believe the Protestant Religion to be the most safe Way: And with the utmost Earnestness, I shall offer up my poor Petitions, That the Divine Goodness would graciously support You under those great and many Troubles wherewith it has pleased Him to exercise You here; and at last to translate You to a Crown of Immarcessible Glory. Which is the daily and sincere Prayer of,

Your most Faithful,

And Obedient Servant,

T H O. K E N N.

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INTRODUCTION.



HAVING with Grief of Heart, observed that uninterrupted Series of Affliction that has attended a very Noble Family, I have thought it my Duty, by the ensuing Meditations, to cast my Mite into this Illustrious Treasury, and by considering the Vicissitude and Uncertainty of all Sublunary States and Things, to offer some support under that Weight of Sorrow, which Minds less Magnanimous than those of Persons so Conspicuous, would have sunk under long ago.

AND since the Holy Scriptures do inform us, that *afflictions rise not out of*