

**THE REFORMED PASTOR: A DISCOURSE  
ON THE PASTORAL OFFICE: TO WHICH IS  
ADDED, AN APPENDIX, CONTAINING  
HINTS OF ADVICE TO STUDENTS FOR THE  
MINISTRY, AND TO TUTORS OF  
ACADEMIES**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649688319

The Reformed Pastor: A Discourse on the Pastoral Office: To Which is Added, an Appendix, Containing Hints of Advice to Students for the Ministry, and to Tutors of Academies by Mr. Richard Baxter & Samuel Palmer

Except for use in any review, the reproduction or utilisation of this work in whole or in part in any form by any electronic, mechanical or other means, now known or hereafter invented, including xerography, photocopying and recording, or in any information storage or retrieval system, is forbidden without the permission of the publisher, Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd, PO Box 1576 Collingwood, Victoria 3066 Australia.

All rights reserved.

Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd.  
Cover @ 2017

This book is sold subject to the condition that it shall not, by way of trade or otherwise, be lent, re-sold, hired out, or otherwise circulated without the publisher's prior consent in any form or binding or cover other than that in which it is published and without a similar condition including this condition being imposed on the subsequent purchaser.

[www.triestepublishing.com](http://www.triestepublishing.com)

**MR. RICHARD BAXTER & SAMUEL PALMER**

**THE REFORMED PASTOR: A DISCOURSE  
ON THE PASTORAL OFFICE: TO WHICH IS  
ADDED, AN APPENDIX, CONTAINING  
HINTS OF ADVICE TO STUDENTS FOR THE  
MINISTRY, AND TO TUTORS OF  
ACADEMIES**



\$1.37½

THE  
REFORMED PASTOR;  
A DISCOURSE ON THE  
PASTORAL OFFICE.

TO WHICH IS ADDED,  
AN APPENDIX,  
CONTAINING  
HINTS OF ADVICE TO STUDENTS  
FOR THE MINISTRY,  
AND TO  
TUTORS OF ACADEMIES.

Written by the Reverend and Pious  
MR. RICHARD BAXTER.

Abridged and reduced to a new Method  
By SAMUEL PALMER.  
THE SECOND EDITION, CORRECTED.

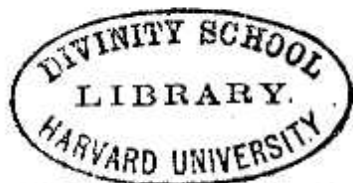
---

LONDON:

PRINTED BY S. COUCHMAN, THROGMORTON-STREET,  
FOR WILLIAM BAYNES, PATERNOSTER-BOW.

1808.

BV  
4009  
.83  
1808



---

## P R E F A C E

By the COMPILER of this Abridgment\*.

---

**M**R. BAXTER's practical writings have generally been esteemed, by pious readers, in proportion as they have been known; and it is a favourable omen that they have of late risen considerably in price. His *Gildas Salvianus*, or REFORMED PASTOR, is a work peculiarly interesting to christian ministers of all denominations, and consequently to the people of their charge.

The occasion on which it was composed, was as follows: the associated ministers in Worcestershire and the adjacent parts, agreed to assemble at Worcester, *December 4, 1655*, to keep a day of fasting and prayer, particularly with a view to an engagement into which they had entered, to exert

\* This Preface is now considerably shortened.

themselves more than they had done, in their ministerial duty, and particularly in that of personal instruction. On this occasion they requested Mr. *Baxter* to preach to them. He accordingly drew up the substance of this discourse on the pastoral office. But being prevented, by the increase of a painful disorder, from meeting his brethren, they united in desiring him to publish what he had prepared, which he did with considerable enlargements.

He himself, as he tells us, towards the close, “apprehended this to be one of the greatest and best works, that he ever put his hand to,” and he had the pleasure to find it eminently useful. In the account given of his publications, in his *Life*, he says, “I have great cause to be thankful to God, for the success of that book, as hoping many thousand souls are the better for it, in that it prevailed upon many ministers to set upon that work, which I there exhorted them to. Even from beyond the seas, I have had letters of request, to direct them how they might conduct that work, according as that book had convinced them, it was their duty.”

Dr. BATES, in his funeral sermon for Mr. *Baxter*, after a high encomium on his other works, pronounces the Reformed Pastor “An accomplish-

ed



## P R E F A C E.

ed model of an evangelical minister ;” and he adds, from his intimate acquaintance with the author, “The idea of a faithful minister delineated in that book, was a copy taken from the life ; from his own zealous example.”

Many other testimonies to the excellence and usefulness of this piece, from competent judges, might easily be produced ; but that of Dr. *Doddridge* will serve instead of a thousand, as few ministers ever acted more conformably than himself to the rules here laid down \*. In the character given of authors in his Lectures on the Ministerial Office, the Doctor has the following passage concerning The Reformed Pastor. “It is a most extraordinary performance, and should be read by every young minister before he takes a people under his stated care ; and I think the practical part of it should be reviewed every two or three years : for nothing has a greater tendency to awaken a minister to that zeal in his work, for want of which many good men are but shadows of what, by the blessing of God, they might be, if the maxims and measures laid down in that incomparable treatise were strenuously pursued †.”

But

\* See Orton's Life of Doddridge.

† The above passage is omitted in Dr. *Williams's* edition of *Dr. Doddridge's Lectures*, from whence it may be presumed

But valuable as this work is, it partakes of the faults common to most of the writings of the age, and of *Mr. Baxter's* in particular: prolixity, want of just method, frequent repetitions, long digressions, &c. which render his compositions far less agreeable to modern readers than they otherwise would have been. Of these he himself was very sensible, and on a review of his works he laments them as the effect of the great haste in which he usually wrote, in consequence of his many other engagements, and the disorders to which he was subject, by reason of which he viewed himself as standing continually on the borders of the grave. Considering all which, it is wonderful he wrote so much and so well as he did. On account of the above circumstances, *Mr. Baxter's* works admit of being abridged to great advantage, as several of them have been by *Mr. FAWCETT*, one of his successors, who imbibed much of his spirit, and closely followed his steps. The *Reformed Pastor* as much needed abridgment as any of the author's writings. This I at first undertook for private use only; but several judicious friends, to whom I had lent the copy, strongly recommended the publication of it.

that he had not a complete copy of them. Indeed the author never prepared or intended them for publication, and the MS. copies greatly vary.

It will be proper here, to give the reader some account of the manner in which this work has been executed. What was foreign, or redundant, is omitted; sentences that were too long, are shortened or divided; the construction of such as were obscure, is made plainer by transposition; and obsolete or uncouth words and phrases, are changed. But the greatest liberties have been taken with regard to the method, which is almost wholly new, for the sake of lessening the number of subdivisions, and bringing into one point of view all the author's thoughts on the same subjects, which were sometimes scattered in three or four different parts of the treatise; so that many passages, and whole heads of discourse, are transposed with freedom. But the reader may be assured, that great care has been taken to preserve the author's ideas, and that no additions have been made, except in the Titles of the Chapters, but where the connexion required the insertion of a few words, which are distinguished by [crotchets.] In short, this is as really Mr. *Baxter's* work, as that published by himself.

The APPENDIX is principally an abstract of the author's *Counsel to Young Men*, taken from the 4th Vol. of his Works, p. 16, &c. It is introduced here, not merely as having some connexion with the subject of this Treatise; but, because the au-