

**RELIGIOUS PATRIOTISM
NURTURED IN THE HOUSE
OF GOD, A SERMON**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649228348

Religious patriotism nurtured in the house of God, a sermon by John Jebb

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Cover @ 2017

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JOHN JEBB

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OF GOD, A SERMON**

A
SERMON.

LONDON.
Printed by A. & R. Spottiswoode,
New-Street-Square.

Religious Patriotism nurtured in the House of God.

A
S E R M O N,

PREACHED

ON SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 15. 1829,

IN THE

CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF SAINT MARY,

LIMERICK.

BY

THE REV. JOHN JEBB, A. B.

DOMESTIC CHAPLAIN TO THE LORD BISHOP OF LIMERICK.

Stand ye in the ways, and see;
And ask for the old paths, where is the good way;
And walk therein, and ye shall find rest for your souls.

JEREMIAH.

Ὅκ ἤθετε δεῖν ἐν τοῖς τοῦ πατρὸς μου δεξιῶν μου;

ΕΥΑΓΓΕΛΙΑ ΚΑΤΑ ΛΟΥΚΑΝ.

Quieti, modesti, Dei nostri liberalitate securi, in spem future
felicittatis, fide presentis ejus majestatis animamur.

MINGIUS FELIX.

PRIVATE IMPRESSION.

MDCCCXXIX.

TO
THE HONOURABLE
JUDGE JEBB.

My dear Brother,

YOU will be much surprized, but, I hope, not displeased, at receiving back this Sermon in print. In some foreign Universities, it is the established custom, and, within certain limits, a wise one, that, before admission to academical rank, each student shall give proof of his proficiency, in a published Thesis. Somewhat in this light, the production which I return you may be viewed; with this difference, indeed, that it is not published, but printed, (and I

beg he may pardon the liberty), without the writer's knowledge or correction.

By any friends who may see these pages, and for such only they are intended, these *primitiæ studiorum* of a deacon in his twenty-fourth year, will not be severely criticised; while, should it please God to spare my nephew's life, they will, I trust, be the precursors of better things to come.

Ever most affectionately yours,

JOHN LIMERICK.

LONDON,
28th February, 1829.

A SERMON.

PSALM CXXII. 6—9.

Pray for the peace of Jerusalem ;
They shall prosper that love thee :
Peace be within thy walls ;
And prosperity within thy palaces :
For my brethren and companions' sakes ;
I will now say, Peace be within thee :
Because of the house of the Lord our God ;
I will seek thy good.

THE divine Poem, of which these verses form a considerable part, is one of those fifteen psalms, intitled *Psalms of Degrees*. The exact meaning of this title is uncertain : the original Hebrew word, signifying *elevation* or *ascension*, has given rise to a variety of conjectures. But whichever of these conjectures is to be adopted ; — whether they received their name, from being performed in the Temple, with a more than common elevation of voices and instruments ; or, from being sung whilst the Priest ascended the

steps of the altar (like the hymn that is used in our choirs, whilst the minister approaches the Holy Table); or else, when the tribes ascended up, on stated festivals, to Jerusalem, — thus much is certain, that the Psalms in question are stamped with a character peculiarly their own: all contain, within a short compass, affecting and simple expressions of an unshaken confidence in the Almighty; and an elevation of heart towards the Heavenly Father of Israel. But that particular one, which I have chosen as the subject of to-day's consideration, yields to none, in tenderness of feeling, unity of plan, and elegance of construction. Let us, therefore, before we proceed to apply it more particularly to our own condition, briefly examine the design and purport of the Psalm, as intended by David, its inspired composer.

On a great public occasion, probably at the celebration of some signal deliverance, or at one of the chief ecclesiastical festivals of the Jews, the Psalmist thus gave vent to the feelings of his pious and affectionate heart. Rejoiced at beholding the unconstrained alacrity of his countrymen in resorting to the House of God, and cheerfully expressing a purpose so congenial to his own liveliest affections, he exclaims, *I was glad when they said unto me, let us go into the House of the*