

AN ESSAY ON NATIVE DEPRAVITY

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An Essay on Native Depravity by Leonard Woods

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LEONARD WOODS

**AN ESSAY ON
NATIVE DEPRAVITY**

AN
ESSAY
ON
NATIVE DEPRAVITY.

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NOTICE.

The premium of three hundred dollars which was awarded to the writer of the following Essay, was offered by MR. JOHN DUNLOP of Edinburgh, Scotland. The Judges appointed were, the REVEREND JEREMIAH DAY, D. D. L. L. D. PRESIDENT of YALE COLLEGE, the REVEREND EDWARD D. GRIFFIN, D. D. PRESIDENT of WILLIAMS COLLEGE, and the REVEREND HEMAN HUMPHREY, D. D. PRESIDENT of AMHERST COLLEGE. The publication of the Essay was delayed some time, for the purpose of receiving the directions of Mr. Dunlop.

The first part of the document discusses the importance of maintaining accurate records of all transactions. It emphasizes that every entry, no matter how small, should be recorded to ensure the integrity of the financial statements. This includes not only sales and purchases but also expenses and income.

The second part of the document provides a detailed breakdown of the accounting cycle. It outlines the ten steps involved in the process, from identifying the accounting entity to preparing financial statements. Each step is explained in detail, with examples provided to illustrate the concepts.

The third part of the document discusses the various types of accounts used in accounting. It categorizes accounts into assets, liabilities, equity, revenue, and expense accounts. It also explains how these accounts are used to record transactions and how they are balanced at the end of each period.

The fourth part of the document discusses the importance of adjusting entries. It explains how these entries are used to ensure that the financial statements reflect the true financial position of the company at the end of the period. Examples are provided to show how adjusting entries are recorded and how they affect the accounts.

The fifth part of the document discusses the preparation of financial statements. It outlines the steps involved in preparing the balance sheet, income statement, and statement of owner's equity. It also discusses the importance of providing a clear and concise explanation of the financial results.

The sixth part of the document discusses the importance of internal controls. It explains how these controls are used to prevent and detect errors and fraud. It also discusses the various types of internal controls, such as segregation of duties and authorization of transactions.

The seventh part of the document discusses the importance of auditing. It explains how auditors are used to verify the accuracy of the financial statements and to provide an opinion on their fairness. It also discusses the various types of audits, such as external audits and internal audits.

The eighth part of the document discusses the importance of tax accounting. It explains how taxes are calculated and how they are recorded in the financial statements. It also discusses the various types of taxes, such as income taxes and sales taxes.

The ninth part of the document discusses the importance of budgeting. It explains how budgets are used to plan and control the company's financial activities. It also discusses the various types of budgets, such as operating budgets and capital budgets.

The tenth part of the document discusses the importance of financial analysis. It explains how financial ratios and other indicators are used to evaluate the company's financial performance. It also discusses the various types of financial analysis, such as ratio analysis and trend analysis.

ESSAY
ON
NATIVE DEPRAVITY.

CHAPTER I.

Preliminary Remarks.

THE following remarks are intended to guard against wrong modes of reasoning, and to prepare the way for a just and profitable discussion of the subject.

First. The consideration of the divine character cannot be made the ground of any presumption against the doctrine of human sinfulness, and can have no influence to invalidate the arguments by which the doctrine is supported.

In reasoning on the present subject I shall proceed on the principle, that the existence and moral perfection of God have been satisfactorily proved, and are

unhesitatingly believed ; and that he is a righteous and benevolent Governour. My position is, that this cannot be adduced as proof against the doctrine of man's apostacy and ruin.

No man can urge the moral character of God as an argument against the doctrine of man's depravity, except upon the supposition, that we are competent to determine, by our own reason, in what manner God's moral perfection will be developed. If we make an appeal to revelation or experience, we shall find what all Christians, and what the most enlightened of the heathen, have found and acknowledged ; that man is the subject of a deep moral depravity. But suppose that we were now at the period immediately after the creation of man, and that, with our rational powers in full exercise, we should look upon the innocent, happy pair in the garden of Eden, under the inspection of their Creator, and enjoying his constant kindness. And suppose the inquiry should be made ; "*Will these holy and happy beings ever become transgressors of God's righteous law ? Will God suffer them to fall into sin ? And will their posterity have their existence in a state of moral ruin ?*" — What would be the proper answer to such an inquiry ? — the answer which would accord with the truth ? We might be inclined to say, such a disastrous event can never take place. God is infinitely good, and he will watch over his dependent, feeble creatures, and effectually guard them against all danger, especially against the pollution and ruin of sin. But if we