

**"THINGS THAT MUST BE",
FOUR ADVENT SERMONS,
PREACHED IN MARGARET'S
CHAPEL, BATH, 1872**

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"Things That Must Be", Four Advent Sermons, Preached in Margaret's Chapel, Bath, 1872 by F. Tilney Bassett

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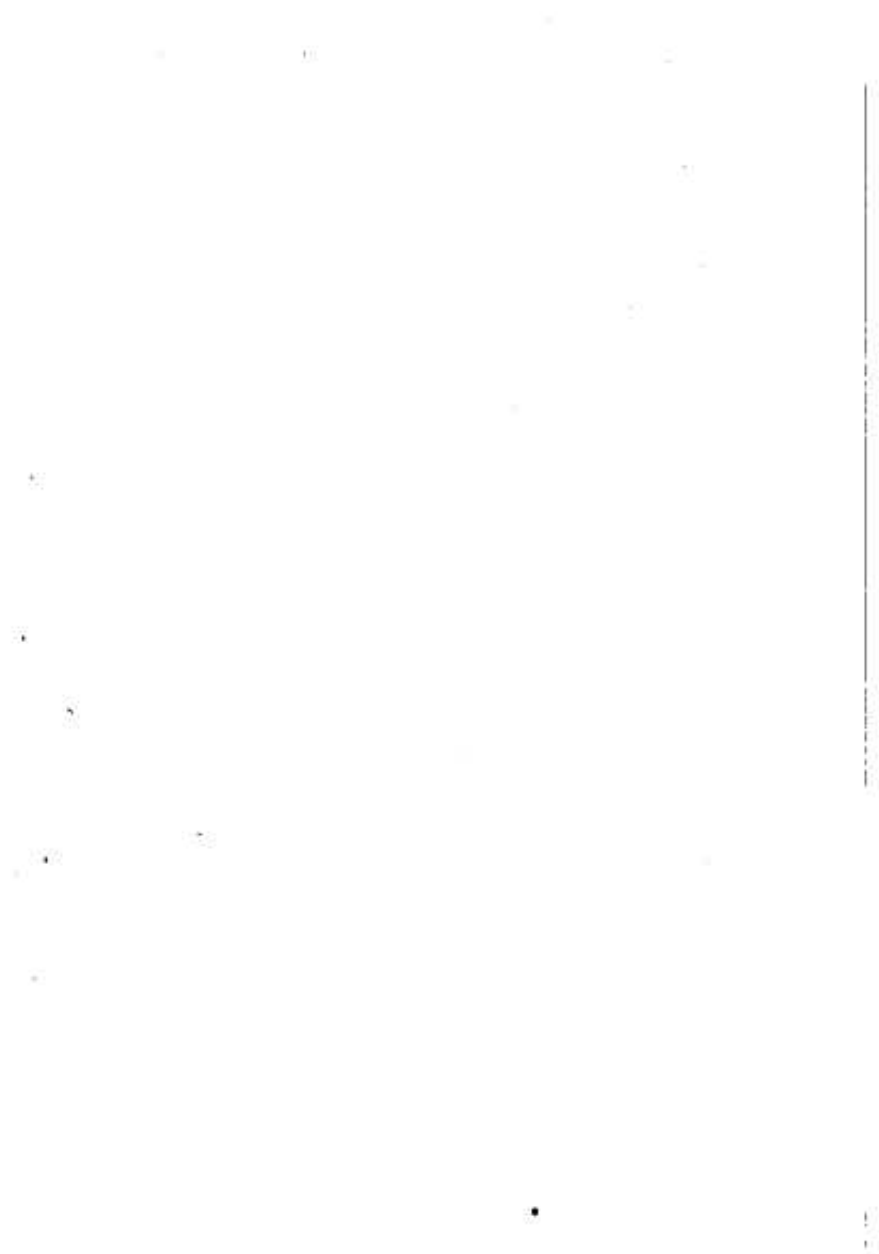
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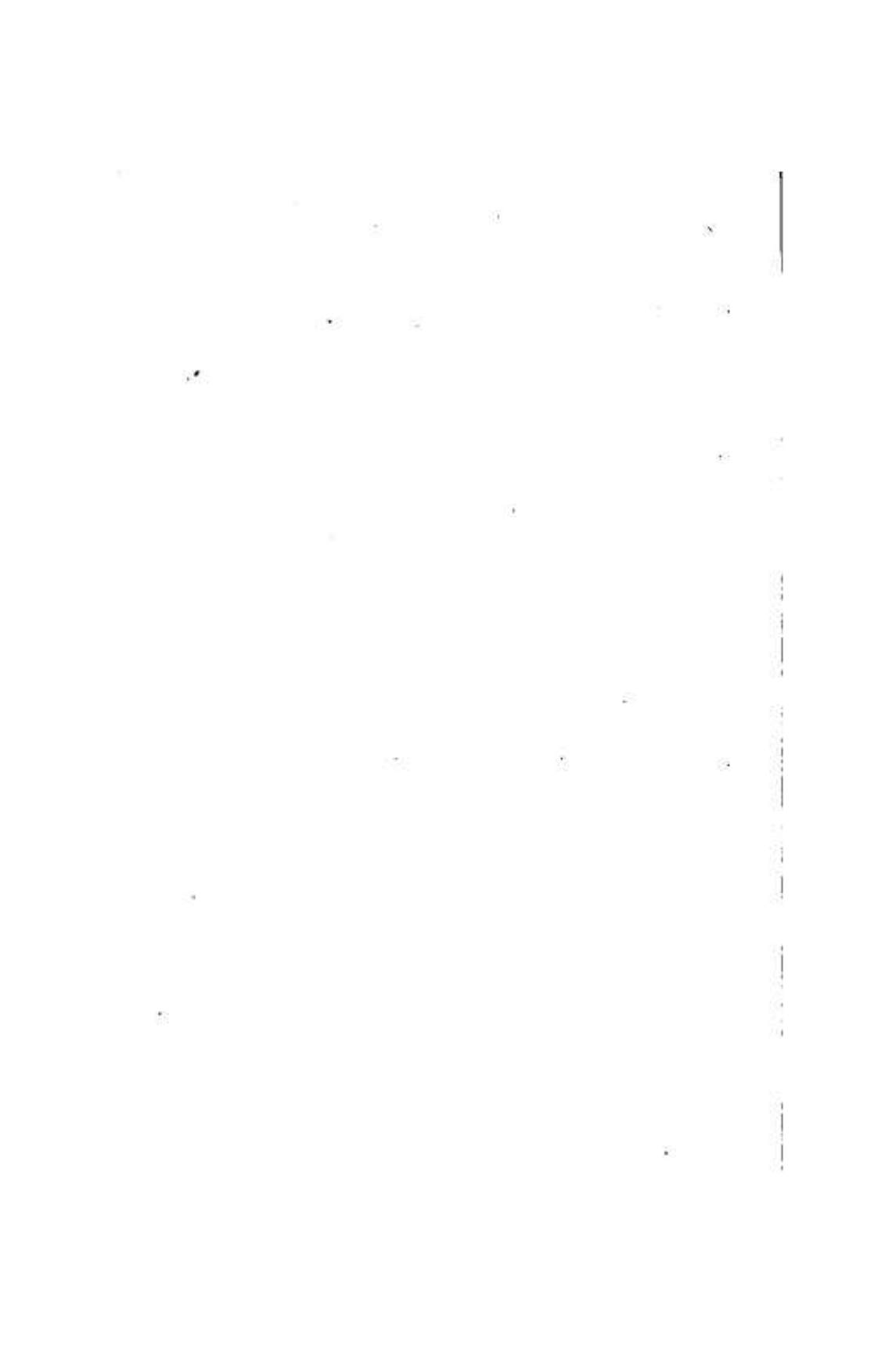
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TO THE CONGREGATION OF
MARGARET'S CHAPEL, BATH,
AT WHOSE REQUEST
THE FOLLOWING SERMONS ARE PUBLISHED.
THIS LITTLE VOLUME
IS AFFECTIONATELY DEDICATED
BY THEIR FAITHFUL BROTHER IN
CHRIST JESUS.



P R E F A C E .

THE subject of these Sermons is one of great importance in these days, the literature that has branched from its roots voluminous, and the differences of opinion among interpreters almost endless. Being fully aware of these facts, the writer acquiesced with the request to publish these discourses with great diffidence. In the course of preparing them for the press this feeling increased, and in revising the sheets the scanty and sketchy character of the whole made a painful impression on his mind, but it was too late to retract, and anything like extensive amplification was impossible. Poor as they are, they are sent forth with a prayer for the Divine blessing on their weakness, and with the hope that the reader may be induced by skimming the surface to dive into the depths, and bring up from the recesses of the Word many a precious gem as the reward of obedience to the command, "*Search the Scriptures.*"



SERMON I.

PREACHED ON THE SUNDAY BEFORE ADVENT,
Nov. 24, 1872.

THE BEAST.

"And I stood upon the sand of the sea, and saw a beast rise up out of the sea, having seven heads and ten horns, and upon his horns ten crowns, and upon his heads the name of blasphemy. And the beast which I saw was like unto a leopard, and his feet were as the feet of a bear, and his mouth as the mouth of a lion; and the dragon gave him his power, and his seat, and great authority."—Revelations xiii. 1—2.

THIS is the last Sunday of the Ecclesiastical year. Once again, through God's mercy, we have enjoyed the privileges of the Gospel of Christ and the means of grace as the sacred seasons have revolved. We have sung once more our Christmas anthems over the Babe of Bethlehem, the child that was born and the son that was given for our salvation. With the wise men we have

watched the rising of the star of Jacob, with them worshipped the King and offered Him the incense of prayer and praise. We have stood by His side, under the shadows of Lent, and witnessed the temptation in the wilderness. Have walked with Him in the days of His ministry, marvelled at His miracles and listened to His parables, have wondered at His sore agonies in the garden, and been eye-witness of His sacrifice on Calvary, have beheld the stone rolled away from the sepulchre, and lifted up our Easter Hallelujah, as with Apostles and Holy Women we gazed on the glories of the risen Lord, and finally, as we stood in spirit, on the hill of Bethany, have caught the last glimpse of our ascending King and High Priest, as the cloud of glory folded Him in the embrace of light unapproachable.

Again, as the year rolled on, we have been gathered with the chosen few in the upper chamber on the morn of Pentecost, have heard the mighty rushing wind and seen the glory of the Shechinah like a central sun, and tongues of fire distributed like rays resting on the twelve. Again, we have hearkened to the principles and practice that spring from these doctrines—the architecture of our duties based and reared upon the foundation stones of faith and facts. By

these mercies of God we have been exhorted to yield our bodies, souls, and spirits as a holy and reasonable sacrifice to Him who died for us and rose again, in hope of the glory to be revealed at the second advent of our Saviour. But before that morning dawn the night that now is will gather gloom—a shroud of darkness that may be felt will settle down upon this Egypt. The hour before the sun-rise is the darkest and the coldest, and so the thickest crape will vest this earth for her funeral, before the jubilee trumpet shall proclaim the day of deliverance, and the voice of the Bridegroom bid the mourner arise and deck herself with the bridal robes of resurrection-glory.

Our blessed Lord in His great prophecy, uttered shortly before He suffered, forewarned us of tribulation such as had not been since the foundation of the world, neither after it should ever be the like (See St. Matthew xxiv). The earth beneath shall be wasted by famine, pestilence shall reap a fearful harvest. The sea and the waves shall roar. Earthquakes shall rend the rocks, and men, even while their hearts are terror-stricken, shall wage war one with another. Kingdom shall rise against kingdom and nation against nation, and the only rallying point, amid the general