

TWELVE SERMONS

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Twelve Sermons by J. Smith

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J. SMITH

**TWELVE
SERMONS**

TWELVE SERMONS,

U P O N

The following SUBJECTS:

- | | |
|---------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|
| I. The Divinity of <i>Christ</i> . | VII. <i>Agur's</i> Request. |
| II. <i>Jephthah's</i> Vow. | VIII. Plain Truth. |
| III. The good <i>Samaritan</i> . | IX. Truth dissembled. |
| IV. A proper and an im-
proper Conformity to the
World. | X. The natural Desire of
long Life. |
| V. Prayer—what it is, and
what it is not. | XI. The Folly and Danger
of despising Religion. |
| VI. <i>Solomon's</i> Request. | XII. The Penitent upon
the Cross. |

By the Rev. J. SMITH, M. A.

Chaplain in Ordinary to his MAJESTY.

L O N D O N :

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M D C C L X X V I.

P R E F A C E.

I WAS advised by many kind Friends to delay the Publication of these Discourses a few Months longer; but the Opinion of some of my Subscribers corresponding with my own Ideas of Delicacy in a Matter of this Kind — I hope that I have not done wrong in publishing them now.

I considered it as a Duty — to be so far *particular* in the Acknowledgment of *Obligations* upon *this Occasion*, as to print the Names of my
Subscribers,

P R E F A C E.

Subscribers, whose Candour *after* Publication, will, I doubt not, prove *equal* to their Civility and Generosity *before*.

The first, eighth, and ninth Sermons, are partly taken from two eminent *French* Divines. They have, however, been preached before very distinguished Congregations, and it was particularly recommended to me to give them a Place in this printed Collection.

I may say of the Sermon upon the Divinity of *Christ* (what a late Writer says of his own religious Treatise) that it is “an Abstract only
“ — designed to raise a proper At-
“ tention, and to create a Desire, in
“ young

P R E F A C E.

“ young or doubting Persons, to
“ pursue the Subject — till the Mind
“ finds Reason to be satisfied in *that*
“ Certainty of Evidence the *whole*
“ produces,” on which this essential
Article of the christian Faith is
founded.

The Rest of the Discourses (ex-
cept in Matters strictly doctrinal) are
taken from Life rather than from
Books—from *Observation* rather than
from *Reading*. I have *endeavoured*
to represent the World as it *now* is
—to make all possible *Allowance*
for Error and Indiscretion — to give
every possible *Commendation* to Prin-
ciples and Conduct, lovely and of
good Report. In a Word; what-
ever

P R E F A C E.

ever Imperfections may be discovered in the following slender Performance, when examined with a critical Attention — I hope it will appear — that I (at least) *wish* Religion *well* — that I *wish* my Fellow-Mortals *well* — *wish* them to be happy *Here* — but at all Events to take Care that they become so *Hereafter*, through their *own best* Endeavours, *perfected* by the Merits and Mediation of *Jesus Christ*.

LONDON, MAY 6, 1776.

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