

**THE COMMUNION OF SAINTS. AN  
ATTEMPT TO ILLUSTRATE THE TRUE  
PRINCIPLES OF CHRISTIAN  
UNION, IN EIGHT LECTURES DELIVERED  
BEFORE THE UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD IN  
THE YEAR 1851**

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The Communion of Saints. An Attempt to Illustrate the True Principles of Christian Union, in Eight Lectures Delivered Before the University of Oxford in the Year 1851 by Henry Bristow Wilson

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**HENRY BRISTOW WILSON**

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AN ATTEMPT  
TO ILLUSTRATE THE TRUE PRINCIPLES  
OF CHRISTIAN UNION:  
IN  
EIGHT LECTURES  
DELIVERED BEFORE  
THE UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD,  
IN THE YEAR MDCCCLI,  
ON THE FOUNDATION OF  
THE LATE REV. JOHN HAMPTON, M.A.  
CANON OF SALISBURY.

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BY  
HENRY BRISTOW WILSON, B. D.  
LATE FELLOW AND TUTOR OF ST. JOHN'S COLLEGE,  
VICAR OF GREAT STAUGHTON, HUNTS.

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OXFORD:  
WILLIAM GRAHAM,  
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1851.

EXTRACT  
FROM  
THE LAST WILL AND TESTAMENT  
OF THE  
REV. JOHN BAMPTON,  
CANON OF SALISBURY.

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— “I give and bequeath my Lands and Estates to  
“ the Chancellor, Masters, and Scholars of the University  
“ of Oxford for ever, to have and to hold all and sin-  
“ gular the said Lands or Estates upon trust, and to the  
“ intents and purposes hereinafter mentioned; that is to  
“ say, I will and appoint that the Vice-Chancellor of the  
“ University of Oxford for the time being shall take and  
“ receive all the rents, issues, and profits thereof, and  
“ (after all taxes, reparations, and necessary deductions  
“ made) that he pay all the remainder to the endowment  
“ of eight Divinity Lecture Sermons, to be established for  
“ ever in the said University, and to be performed in the  
“ manner following:

“ I direct and appoint, that, upon the first Tuesday in  
“ Easter Term, a Lecturer be yearly chosen by the Heads  
“ of Colleges only, and by no others, in the room ad-  
“ joining to the Printing-House, between the hours of ten  
“ in the morning and two in the afternoon, to preach  
“ eight Divinity Lecture Sermons, the year following, at  
“ St. Mary’s in Oxford, between the commencement of the

“ last month in Lent Term, and the end of the third week  
“ in Act Term.

“ Also I direct and appoint, that the eight Divinity  
“ Lecture Sermons shall be preached upon either of the  
“ following Subjects—to confirm and establish the Chris-  
“ tian Faith, and to confute all hereties and schismatics  
“ —upon the divine authority of the holy Scriptures—  
“ upon the authority of the writings of the primitive Fa-  
“ thers, as to the faith and practice of the primitive Church  
“ —upon the Divinity of our Lord and Saviour Jesus  
“ Christ—upon the Divinity of the Holy Ghost—upon the  
“ Articles of the Christian Faith, as comprehended in the  
“ Apostles’ and Nicene Creeds.

“ Also I direct, that thirty copies of the eight Divinity  
“ Lecture Sermons shall be always printed, within two  
“ months after they are preached, and one copy shall be  
“ given to the Chancellor of the University, and one copy  
“ to the Head of every College, and one copy to the Mayor  
“ of the city of Oxford, and one copy to be put into the  
“ Bodleian Library; and the expense of printing them shall  
“ be paid out of the revenue of the Land or Estates given  
“ for establishing the Divinity Lecture Sermons; and the  
“ Preacher shall not be paid, nor be entitled to the revenue,  
“ before they are printed.

“ Also I direct and appoint, that no person shall be  
“ qualified to preach the Divinity Lecture Sermons, un-  
“ less he hath taken the degree of Master of Arts at least,  
“ in one of the two Universities of Oxford or Cambridge;  
“ and that the same person shall never preach the Divinity  
“ Lecture Sermons twice.”

## C O N T E N T S.

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### L E C T U R E I.

(Delivered March 23.)

E P H E S I A N S ii. 19.

*Now therefore ye are no more strangers and foreigners, but fellow-citizens with the saints, and of the household of God.* . . . . . Page 1

### L E C T U R E II.

(Delivered March 30.)

J O H N vii. 16, 17.

*My doctrine is not mine, but his that sent me. If any man will do his will, he shall know of the doctrine, whether it be of God, or whether I speak of myself.* . . . . . 36

### L E C T U R E III.

(Delivered April 6.)

R O M A N S v. 1.

*Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.* 78



## LECTURE IV.

(Delivered May 4.)

EPHES. ii. 8.

*For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God.* 110

## LECTURE V.

(Delivered May 11.)

GAL. i. 3, 4.

*Grace be to you and peace from God the Father, and from our Lord Jesus Christ, who gave himself for our sins, that he might deliver us from this present evil world, according to the will of God and our Father.* 147

## LECTURE VI.

(Delivered May 18.)

MATT. XX. 22, 23.

*Are ye able to drink of the cup that I shall drink of, and to be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with? They say unto him, We are able. And He saith unto them, Ye shall drink indeed of my cup, and be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with.* 180

## LECTURE VII.

(Delivered June 1.)

JOHN xvii. 16.

*They are not of the world, even as I am not of the world.* 211

## LECTURE VIII.

(Delivered June 22.)

HEB. vi. 1.

*Therefore leaving the principles of the doctrine of Christ, let us go on unto perfection; not laying again the foundation of repentance from dead works, and of faith toward God, of the doctrine of baptisms, and of laying on of hands. . . . . 249*

