THE ATONING WORK OF CHRIST,
VIEWED IN RELATION TO SOME
CURRENT THEORIES, IN EIGHT SERMONS,
PREACHED BEFORE THE UNIVERSITY OF
OXFORD, IN THE YEAR 1853

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

#### ISBN 9780649742622

The Atoning Work of Christ, Viewed in Relation to Some Current Theories, in Eight Sermons, Preached Before the University of Oxford, in the Year 1853 by William Thomson

Except for use in any review, the reproduction or utilisation of this work in whole or in part in any form by any electronic, mechanical or other means, now known or hereafter invented, including xerography, photocopying and recording, or in any information storage or retrieval system, is forbidden without the permission of the publisher, Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd, PO Box 1576 Collingwood, Victoria 3066 Australia.

All rights reserved.

Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd. Cover @ 2017

This book is sold subject to the condition that it shall not, by way of trade or otherwise, be lent, re-sold, hired out, or otherwise circulated without the publisher's prior consent in any form or binding or cover other than that in which it is published and without a similar condition including this condition being imposed on the subsequent purchaser.

www.triestepublishing.com

## **WILLIAM THOMSON**

THE ATONING WORK OF CHRIST,
VIEWED IN RELATION TO SOME
CURRENT THEORIES, IN EIGHT SERMONS,
PREACHED BEFORE THE UNIVERSITY OF
OXFORD, IN THE YEAR 1853



#### THE

# ATONING WORK OF CHRIST,

VIEWED IN RELATION TO SOME

CURRENT THEORIES,

## IN EIGHT SERMONS,

PREACHED BEFORE

## THE UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD,

IN THE YEAR MDCCCLIII.

AT THE LECTURE FOUNDED BY

THE LATE REV. JOHN BAMPTON, M.A. CANON OF BALISBURY.

WILLIAM THOMSON, M.A.

PELLOW AND TUTOR OF QUEEN'S COLLEGE.

## ONFORD:

PRINTED BY J. WRIGHT, PRINTER TO THE UNIVERSITY,

FOR

LONGMAN, BROWN, GREEN AND LONGMANS, PATERNOSTER ROW, LONDON.

M.BCCC.LIII.



## EXTRACT

FROM

### THE LAST WILL AND TESTAMENT

OF THE

## REV. JOHN BAMPTON,

CANON OF SALISBURY.

"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 singular 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 adjoining 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 Christian Faith, and to confute all beretics and schismatics
—upon the divine authority of the holy Scriptures—
upon the authority of the writings of the primitive Fathers, 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 be bath 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."

## SUMMARY.

#### LECTURE L

#### THE NEED OF MEDIATION.

#### ROMANS V. S.

But God commendeth his loce toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.

Statement of the subject, page 1,

Three ideas that belong to the doctrine of Atonement. 4.

- The idea of God. a. Ontological grounds for this, 4.
   Cosmological grounds, 8. y. Physico-theological
  - grounds. 9. ê. Practical grounds. 11. Estimate of these, 12.
- II. The idea of sin. α. Sin viewed as a privation. 16.
  β. Sin viewed as selfishness. 18. γ. Sin viewed as disobedience, 20.
- III. The idea of reconcilement, 22. Practical aspect of these ideas, 24.

## LECTURE II.

#### HEATHEN VIEWS OF MEDIATION.

## r Kings xviii. 27.

- .... Cry aloud: for he is a god; either he is talking, or he is pursuing, or he is in a journey, or peradeenture he sleepeth.

  and must be awaked.
- Hope of reconciliation, the key to pagan religions. 29. Sacrifices, 32. I. of men voluntarily for their fellow-

men. 33. 11. of human victims, 38. 111. of other victims, 40. 4V. Supposed effects of sacrifices, 45.

Origin of sacrifices cannot be traced to Noah, 48. Theories of it 50—53. Summary 53. Conclusion 54.

#### LECTURE III.

JEWISH VIEWS OF REDEMPTION THROUGH MESSIAH.

LUKE XXIV. 21.

But we trusted that it had been he which should have redeemed Israel.

God's purposes are sure. 60. Connexion of Old and New Testaments. 62.

Double significance of Mosaic sacrifices. 64. The sinoffering examined. 66. Two theories of its meaning. 69. These not irreconcilable. 69. The Day of Atonement. 70. The scapegoat (Azazel) 72. Mosaic sacrifices insufficient. 73. Messianic promises shew this. 74. Their twofold character. 76. These compared with New Testament. 79. Was Messiah expected when our Lord came? 80. Conclusion. 83.

#### LECTURE IV.

THE GOSPEL ACCOUNT OF JESUS CHRIST.

## Luke xvii. 4.

I have glorified thee on the earth; I have finished the work which thou gavest me to do.

Twofold character of the life of Jesus. 88. Christ the Son of God and the Son of Man. 93. The Son of God. 93. The Son of Man. 94. He must suffer. 96. Objection that the synoptical Evangelists do not so clearly exhibit the Atonement. 98. Important place assigned to his sufferings in all the Evangelists. 100. These to be studied under a conviction of sin. 102. Danger arising from any other temper. 104. View of De Wette of the atoning work of Jesus. 106. Its errors. 109. View of Strauss, 112. Its errors. 115. Conclusion, 117.

## LECTURE V.

#### SCRIPTURAL STATEMENTS AS TO THE ATONEMENT.

### 1 Cor. i. 30, 31.

But of him are yo in Christ Jesus, who of God is made unto us wisdom, and righteoneness, and sanctification, and redemption; That according as it is written, He that plorieth, let him glory in the Lord.

God is righteous, proved from natural religion. 120. 1 Cor. xv. 19. Explained. 121. God is merciful, proved in the same way. 123. Scriptural statements that God is just yet merciful. 124. This is an antinomy, not a contradiction. 125. It is reconciled in the Gospel scheme. 128. Provided this is studied in a religious temper. 132. Caution required in using new terms and in extending the use of old ones. 133. Satisfactio. 135. Acceptilatio. 135. Active and passive obedience. 136. Peculiar fitness of Scriptural scheme for man's natural wants, 139. Conclusion. 144.

## LECTURE VI.

THEORIES OF THE ATONEMENT IN THE EARLY CHURCH.

### JOHN XVI. 13.

Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth.

Worth of evidence of Christian witnesses. 147. Two lines of thought. I. A ransom paid to Satan. 154. Views of Irenœus. 154. These pushed further by later writers. 156. Unscriptural consequences. 157. II. A satisfaction made to God's justice. View of Anselm. His tone of mind. 161. Analysis of his Cur Deus homo. 163. How developed by Thomas Aquinas. 116. Defects of the theory. 166. Inferences from these opinions. 168. Conclusion. 172.