

**A PLAIN CHRISTIAN'S MANUAL;
OR, SIX PLAIN SERMONS ON
EARLY PIETY, THE SACRAMENTS,
AND MAN'S LATTER END**

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A Plain Christian's Manual; Or, Six Plain Sermons on Early Piety, the Sacraments, and Man's
Latter End by John Wood Warter

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Six Plain Sermons

ON

EARLY PIETY, THE SACRAMENTS,

AND

MAN'S LATTER END.

Uncontroversial, but suited to the Present Time.



By **JOHN WOOD WALTER, B.D.**

CHRIST CHURCH, OXFORD,

VICAR OF WEST TARRING, SUSSEX,

Rectory House, and Surrogate.

"To me, to whom God hath revealed his Son, in a Gospel, by a Church, there can be no way of salvation, but by applying that Son of God, by that Gospel, in that Church."—**DONNE'S SERMONS.**

"Sermons should be instructions, not declamations, or displaying curious thoughts, which may amuse, but not edify Christians."

By **WILSON, Sac. Pris.**

"There is a great deal of difference betwixt people admiring a preacher, and being edified by his sermons."—**IBID.**

London:

FRANCIS & JOHN RIVINGTON,

ST. PAUL'S CHURCH YARD, AND WATERLOO PLACE.

1850.

"Train up thy children, England, in the ways
Of righteousness, and feed them with the bread
Of wholesome doctrine."

SOUTHEY.

"I am neither so vain or so inexperienced as to imagine that any thing which I may offer will change any man's opinions; but I may fix them where they are unconfirmed, make the scale turn when it is wavering, and give a right bias to those who are beginning their career."—SOUTHEY.
Letter to Bishop Jebb. Life and Corr. v. 146.

"What Church hath one Lord, Jesus Christ the Righteous,—one Faith in that Lord,—one Baptism in that Faith,—it is the One Dove of Christ."—BR. HALL.

TO THE
PARISHIONERS
OF
WEST TARRING, HEENE, AND DURRINGTON,
SUSSEX,

The Manual following

AFTER "THE PLAIN TEACHING OF THE PRAYER BOOK,"

WITH EVERY FEELING OF SINCERE ATTACHMENT,

(AFTER A TRIAL OF SIXTEEN YEARS,)

IS GRATEFULLY INSCRIBED,

BY

THEIR AFFECTIONATE PASTOR AND FRIEND,

JOHN WOOD WARTER.

PREFACE.

IN dedicating these pages to my Parishioners, amongst whom I have resided these many years, I do it for God's glory, and with great good will towards them. It gives me the opportunity likewise of thankfully recording the fact, that when an attempt has been made in these Parishes to desecrate GOOD FRIDAY, they have very properly not done so, but have thronged the church to overflowing, as though they would declare, each one severally, in the words of Nehemiah, "SO DID NOT I, BECAUSE OF THE FEAR OF GOD ¹." Of such advantage

¹ Neh. v. 15.

is it to have, in an agricultural Parish like this, the best of Churchwardens, who know the power of example; and excellent masters, who know that they have a Master in heaven. Usually it will be found true, "LIKE MASTER LIKE MAN."

I will only add:—The Prophet Jonah was awakened by a PAGAN, who "came to him, and said unto him, What meanest thou, O sleeper? arise, call upon thy God, if so be that God will think upon us, that we perish not²." Then, as we would shun evil example, and teach our people to follow what is good, ourselves leading the way, let us make the most of deliberate profaneness, and faithfully impress upon each one committed to our trust,—as, to a certain extent, is the case with every servant

² Jonah i. 6.

and his master,—this text of St. Paul, adapted to his purpose from the Evangelical Prophet Isaiah, “Awake thou that sleepest, and arise from the dead, and Christ shall give thee light³.” God forgive my many and great imperfections, my unprofitableness, my inefficient labours amongst my poor and destitute people!

³ Ephes. v. 14.

VICARAGE, WEST TARRING, SUSSEX;

July 15th, 1850.