THE NECESSITY OF A REVELATION OF THE BEING AND WILL OF GOD, AND THE ADAPTION OF THE PRESENT REVELATION TO THAT NECESSITY

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649655731

The Necessity of a Revelation of the Being and Will of God, and the Adaption of the Present Revelation to That Necessity by A. Norman

Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd.
Cover @ 2017

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A. NORMAN

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Trieste

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London:
Printed by A. & R. Spottiswoode,
New-Street-Square.

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BY

THE REV. A. NORMAN, A.B.

CURATE OF BRAILSFORD, AUTHOR OF "LITERÆ SACRÆ."

Παντα δοκιμαζετε. 1 Thess. v. xxi.

Let us all seek truth as if none of us had found it.
Volney.

LONDON:

PRINTED FOR

LONGMAN, REES, ORME, BROWN, AND GREEN,

PATERNOSTER-ROW.

1826.

TO

THE VENERABLE

SAMUEL BUTLER, D.D. F.R.S. &c.

ARCHDEACON OF DERBY.

Reverend Sir,

I would attempt to show my respect to your eminent name by adorning this page with its single expression, but lest I should thus lead my readers to suppose that I place my arguments before them under your sanction, it is proper to say that I alone am responsible for them.

When I published my former work, you were pleased, whilst you dissented from

some of my conclusions on moral philosophy, to interest yourself in my success. Those conclusions were stated with every respect for the opinions of others, and with deference of my own reasoning. They were however only stated generally; and since their publication I have learned that they must be more particularly established, before I can expect for them the attention of those who are interested in such discussions. Accordingly in the following pages I have attempted to support them; and at the same time have also endeavoured to turn them to their most proper use, that of giving a more decided answer to the assumptions of infidelity, and of exalting the Scriptures above the station allotted to them by moral philosophy. My only desire is to serve the cause of truth, and if my labour tends to the advancement of that cause by calling the attention of men to the subject which I have ventured to discuss, no one, I am certain, would rejoice more than yourself. Should the attempt prove abortive, the

design in which it is made will, I trust, secure me from the heavier charges of presumption, whilst the labour of it has already been more than repaid in the honour of your countenance and approbation. In acknowledgment of the sense which I entertain of it, I remain,

Reverend Sir,

Your very obedient

Humble Servant,

A. NORMAN.