

**A VINDICATION OF THE
SCHEME OF REDEMPTION:
CONTAINED IN HIS
DISCOURSES ON PROPHECY**

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WRITINGS
IN
PROSE AND VERSE,
ON
VARIOUS SUBJECTS.
BY
JOHN G. WILSON.

The commonest mind is full of thoughts; some worthy of the rarest;
And could it see them fairly writ, would wonder at its wealth.

Torrens.

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VOL I

DISCOURSES ON PROPHECY.

THIS is a compendious exhibition, on a scheme entirely new, of the Divine purpose in the redemption of man by Jesus Christ, as revealed in the more sure word of prophecy, which is as a light that shineth in a dark place, showing that the dominion of the world will be given to the saints of God, and that all the rest of mankind will be subject to their government; that in their condition of glory and blessedness the saints will have an everlasting reward; and in their condition of dishonor and shame the ungodly will have an everlasting punishment. But that all sinful intelligences will eventually be subdued and reconciled to God, become obedient subjects of the Kingdom, and, saved from torment and pain, be made as happy as their condition will allow.

In all departments of science new discoveries are considered practicable, and are commonly hailed with delight. Why should not new discoveries in Biblical truth be deemed equally so, and welcomed accordingly? The Bible, as a record of God's thoughts and purposes in relation to the moral gov-

ernment of his creatures, while shedding the dews of salvation abundantly upon thousands of believing hearts and inquiring minds, may have been, like the great book of nature, but partially understood. And the scribe, instructed unto the kingdom of heaven, like the diligent student of nature, is to bring out of this treasury things both new and old. We trust that it will not be deemed presumptuous in us to aim, in humble dependence on God, to fulfil this duty. So far as our knowledge extends, no one else has ever taken the view of the Divine government and proceedings, in whole, which is presented in this volume. Our view, it is true, presents much that is common to all evangelical expositions of the Scheme of Redemption. And where we think we have discovered new light, and have presented new views, we have endeavored to give the reason for the hope that is in us with meekness and fear.

If any one should ask, as some have done, why these things were not discovered previously by the learned and wise and good who have diligently studied the Bible to find the truth? We answer, by inquiring why the circulation of the blood was not discovered before Harvey? and gravitation before Newton? and electricity before Franklin? The Bible is as rich in truth as nature is in fact. In the glorious sky of Revelation, as well as in the natural heavens, there may be stars whose light has not yet reached us, and which may be designed to bless the world in its future track; the discovery of which may be made by some diligent student hereafter. When we consider the dispensations of God as al-

ready historically developed or prophetically intimated in his word in their connection with and relation to the great scheme of redemption, we exclaim with Paul, "O the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! how unsearchable are his judgments, and his ways past finding out,"—and with the Realist, "Thou has magnified thy word above all thy name."

We have not the vanity or presumption to suppose that we are above the liability to err; but we have searched diligently after the truth, and have not written a line without conviction of its accordance with the testimony of the Divine word. If we have erred we shall be truly grateful to any one who will point out our errors, and show unto us a more excellent way. We ask a candid perusal of this volume, a thorough investigation of the views of the Scheme of Redemption presented in it, and an unprejudiced judgment respecting them.

We shall be pleased to hear from any who may be interested in our views, and to answer inquiries respecting them. Having derived unspeakable comfort from them to our own mind, we are desirous of communicating the same to others, and therefore invite inquiry and criticism.

May the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the God of all grace and consolation, grant us the unction from above which shall guide us into all Truth.

VINDICATION.

THIS Appendix to Vol. I. has been called forth by the criticism of D. N. Lord, Esq., Editor of the Theological and Literary Journal of New York; who, misapprehending the doctrine of my book, made a mis-statement of my theory and remarks thereon, calculated to prejudice the public mind against it. His refusing to admit any correction, and attempting to justify his position, reduced me to the necessity of publishing the controversy between us in this form. Here the reader will find the whole subject fairly presented, and can judge for himself whether Mr. Lord has sustained his position, or whether I have vindicated my theory. Truth is mighty and will prevail.

Other articles which have a bearing on the same and other subjects presented in the Discourses, have been added, and will not, I think, be uninteresting to the reader.

Any one wishing to obtain a copy of the Discourses, can do so by sending \$1, current money, or postage stamps, to the author's address, who in return will send the book, postage paid.

Notices of the Discourses may be found at the close of this book.

This book will be sent, postage paid, to any one who will send us 30 cents in postage stamps.

JOHN G. WILSON,

1410 Hanover street, Kensington, Philadelphia, Pa.

VOL. II.

DISCOURSES ON THE APOCALYPSE.

HAVING recently completed a series of Discourses on this very interesting and important portion of the Word of God; we propose to make them the second volume of our Writings, and publish them in the usual duodecimo Library style. This we will do, as soon as, in the providence of God, our way may be opened to effect the same. A kind friend, who has already aided us in this way, has proposed to be one of five to contribute \$100 each, to enable us to get the work stereotyped. Thinking that there are others who would willingly aid us in this matter, if made acquainted with the proposal, we mention it to invite their co-operation, in a good cause. Others may be disposed to assist us by donations of less amount which will also be gratefully accepted. And all such amounts shall, as God shall prosper us, be employed in benevolent purposes. Again, all persons may, if they will, further the plan by subscribing to our second volume. This may be done by letter, through the mail, if they have no other means of access to the author or