

**A SURVEY OF THE PLATFORM OF
THE CHRISTIAN CHURCH EXHIBITED
IN THE SCRIPTURES, APPLIED TO ITS
ACTUAL CIRCUMSTANCES AND
CONDITION**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649065950

A Survey of the Platform of the Christian Church Exhibited in the Scriptures, Applied to Its Actual Circumstances and Condition by Hector Davies Morgan

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

HECTOR DAVIES MORGAN

**A SURVEY OF THE PLATFORM OF
THE CHRISTIAN CHURCH EXHIBITED
IN THE SCRIPTURES, APPLIED TO ITS
ACTUAL CIRCUMSTANCES AND
CONDITION**

7
A
SURVEY OF THE PLATFORM

OF THE

CHRISTIAN CHURCH,

EXHIBITED IN THE SCRIPTURES

APPLIED TO ITS

ACTUAL CIRCUMSTANCES AND CONDITION,

With suggestions for its

CONSOLIDATION AND ENLARGEMENT;

COMPRISING

THE SUBSTANCE OF AN ESSAY

ON THE DIVINE ORIGIN AND SUCCESSION OF THE CHRISTIAN
PRIESTHOOD;

ON ITS NECESSITY AS A DIVINE APPOINTMENT;

AND

ON THE RELATION WHICH IT BEARS TO THE JEWISH PRIESTHOOD;

To which was adjudged

A PREMIUM OF FIFTY POUNDS,

BY

*The Society for promoting Christian Knowledge and Church Extension
in the Diocese of St. David's.*



BY

HECTOR DAVIES MORGAN, M. A.

MINISTER OF CASTLE HEDINGHAM, ESSEX.

OXFORD,

PRINTED FOR J. PARKER;

AND F. C. AND J. RIVINGTON, AND J. HATCHARD, LONDON.

BY W. BAXTER, OXFORD.

1816.

110. m. 613

ADVERTISEMENT.

THE period, which was limited for the production of the Essay, of which the substance is comprised in the following Survey, allowed no leisure for elaborate composition or extensive research. The subject was familiar to the Author, and he seized the opportunity of collecting from the Scriptures only a view of the constitution of the Christian Church, a design, which he had often meditated, but for which he had made no preparation, and which he proposed to execute in a very different form.

Since the premium was adjudged, he has availed himself of the advice of friends, on whose judgment he places the strongest reliance, and for whose assistance he returns his sincerest thanks. The original composition has been revised and considerably enlarged; exceptions have been anticipated and repelled, and the argument has been strengthened by a reference to the best writers on Ecclesiastical polity. The order of the first and second

parts of the proposed thesis has been inverted, to render the scriptural view of the subject more simple and uninterrupted; a new title descriptive of the method of the discussion has been adopted; and the work has been divided into Sections, to each of which is prefixed the substance of the argument which it contains. A more detailed Analysis supplies the place of the Table of Contents. References to the texts of Scripture, on which the argument is founded, are subjoined at the foot of the page; and the authorities of eminent divines are alleged in the notes, which comprehend such illustrations and remarks, as, though not irrelevant, would interrupt the series of the discourse. For all these alterations and additions the Author alone is responsible, and he is desirous of discharging the Committee, by whom the premium was adjudged, of all participation in any erroneous or offensive sentiment, which the work in its present state may be found to contain.

It would be ungrateful to dismiss the following sheets, without apprising the reader, that the premium, which called forth the original Essay, was the donation of the Right Honourable LORD KENYON; a nobleman whose constancy in doing good, whose intimate acquaintance with matters of ecclesias-

tical polity, and whose cordial zeal in every thing which concerns the welfare of the Church of England, are such as become the pupil of **WILLIAM JONES** of Nayland.



ANALYSIS OF THE ARGUMENT.

SECTION I.

PRÆFATORY CONSIDERATIONS.

CONCESSIONS of Ecclesiastical writers, and their effects—how far warranted. The question referred to the Scriptures—difficulties of treating it. Presumptive proofs of the divine constitution of the Christian Church and Ministry. Method of the following Survey. Page 1.

SECTION II.

ORIGIN AND SUCCESSION OF THE CHRISTIAN MINISTRY.

Divine origin asserted and illustrated by the eternal designation and visible appointment of Christ; by the call of the Twelve, and of the Seventy; by the divine preference of Matthias; and by the call of St. Paul. Succession exhibited in the ordination of the seven Deacons, of Timothy and Titus, and of the ministers whom they were respectively appointed to ordain, and by the enumeration of ecclesiastical persons mentioned in the Scriptures. General remarks on the evidence produced. Page 19.

SECTION III.

DEGREES AND DISTINCTIONS OF THE CHRISTIAN MINISTRY.

During the personal administration of the Lord were three distinct orders. Conjectures on his conference with the apostles in the interval between the resurrection and ascension. After his ascension not more than three orders, to which the more numerous designations of ecclesiastical officers are reduced; nor less than three orders. Apostles distinct from Presbyters: the title of Apostles seldom used

before, always after, the ascension. There were three orders. Apostles possessing peculiar powers of ruling, judging, ordaining, visiting, and confirming through an extensive district. Presbyters, a continuation of the order of the Seventy, and called Bishops in the Scriptures. Their office—Deacons—Deaconesses. Page 51.

SECTION IV.

UNITY, DIVISION, UNIFORMITY, AND COMMUNION OF THE APOSTOLIC CHURCH, AND PERPETUITY OF THE ORDER ESTABLISHED BY THE APOSTLES.

Unity described. Nature of schism collected from the apostolic writings. Uniform observance of the ordinances of the Apostles. Apostolic council at Jerusalem. Order of the Apostles universal and perpetual. Page 95.

SECTION V.

CONFIRMATION OF THE ARGUMENT.

Comparison of the Christian ministry with the Jewish priesthood. Universal practice of Episcopacy. Difficulties of the contrary hypothesis. Page 107.

SECTION VI.

APPLICATION OF THE ARGUMENT.

To the Romanist: to the sectarist: to the laity of the Church of England, including the Legislature: to the Clergy. Promise of an universal Church. Correspondence of the Church of England with foreign countries. Missions to the Heathen unsuccessful: compared with the apostolic method of planting Churches. Duty of England to enlarge the Church. Conclusion. Page 106.