CHAP. VI.

of the Devil and evil Angels.

A Chief or Prince of Devils.

In this I understand, that when the Devil is spoken of in the Singular Number, it intends him as the Chief; for it is evident, that there is an Order among the Devils, a Chief, or Prince of Devils, at whose service all the rest are, & this Prince of Devils hath many Titles given him in Scripture:

His Titles do Names given in Scripture

given in Scripture is to difcover his Nature. 1. Beelzebub the Prince of Devils, as is fupposed from Baalzebub the God of Ekron, 2 King. 1,2,6.

Na

ver

AR

get

2. The Old Serpent, Rev. 12. 9. so called for age in Wickedness, and Subtlety to deceive, He it was that deceived our first Parents, Gén. 3. 1. 2 Cor. 11. 3. and the Apostle saith, 2 Cor. 2. 11. We are not ignorant of his Devices.

3. The Devil, Mat. 4. 1. 1 Tim. 3.6. which fignifieth a malicious Slanderer, and false Accuser, a Calumniator, 2 Tim. 2, 3.

Tit. 2. 3.

4. Satan, 1 Chron. 21. 1. Job 1. 6,7,8,9. Zech. 3. 1. an Adverfary, or Enemy, fometimes ignorantly, fo was Peter to Christ, Matth. 16. 23. Mark 8. 33. 2. maliciously and intentionally, fo is Satan, Mat. 4. 10.

5. The Dragon and a roaring Lion, Rev. 12.9. 1 Pet. 5.8. fo called for his fierceness and cruelty to mankind, wicked and cruel men are so called, Ifa. 27. 1. Ezek, 29.3.

6. The Prince of this World, Joh. 12.31. and the God of this World, 2 Cor. 4.4. which. fignifieth his ruling Power in and over the people of this World, the Spirit that now worketh in the Children of Disobedience,

Eph. 2.2.

7. The Prince of the Power of the Air, Eph. 2. 2. which noteth the great Power, of Satan in the airy Firmament, as also his place of passage to and fro, and under this fingle Title in various Expressions, or Names, relating to the Prince, or Chief, is the fulness of his Nature and Work discovered: and likewise the whole number is fometimes included, Mark 5.9. My Name is Legion, for we are many, and they are all of the same Name and Nature.

2. Of evil Angels, or Devils, in general, 2 Of evil

I shall note.

1. Their Creation, and that (as I faid be-general. fore) was good; for God made all good, Their Angels of Light, that is clear; for they kept Creation. not their first estate, and abode not in the truth, Joh. 8.44. which argueth that they were in the truth, but abode not therein.

2. Of their Fall, and that was by Sin; 2 Of their what Law God gave them is not expref- Fall, that fed but doubtless it mas fed, but doubtless it was the Law of Hu- for fin. mility and Obedience, to be content in

Angels or

their

their station, and to be obedient to their Maker, but they brake it and fell from that estate by fin, and fin must be a transgreffion of fome Law: that it was for fin that they were cast down and became Devils is clear from Scripture, 2 Pet. 2. 4. For God spared not the Angels that sinned, but east them down to Hell, &c. Job 4. 18. he charged his Angels with folly, that is fin; for fin is the greatest folly, and so they fell from God into the greatest enmity and hatred against him.

2 What was the Sin of the Angels

3. What the fin of the Angels was by which they fell: as for this, various apprehenfions there are concerning it: with that fell. the confutation of any I shall not meddle, but state the truth from the Scripture: and that describes it, especially in three things; the first is Pride, and this appears from two Scripture-Grounds; the first is I Tim. 3.5. amongst the Qualifications of a Bishop; this must be one, Not a Novice, lest, being lifted up with Pride, he fall into the condemnation of the Devil: from whence I would observe these four probable things,

1. That Pride was the cause of the Devils Fall and Condemnation, or that by

which he became a Devil.

2. That very probably the fallen Angels Rood but a little while; they fell in the young estate of their Creation, while Novices.

3. That Novices in Faith or Ministry

are

Man

The

xpe'

and f

he th

descri

Truth

Vatur

hedi

that telf,

are in greatest danger to be insnared with the Devils fin of Pride. And

4. That fuch is the evil of the fin of Pride, that it exposes those that are infinared therewith, and captivated thereby, to the Devils Condemnation, that is eternal, without hope or help: O therefore take heed and beware of Pride.

The fecond Scripture-Ground is, the temptation he made use of, and prevailed upon our first Parents withal; which was, Pride and Disobedience, he knoweth ye shall be as Gods, &c. It seems he knew by experience what aspiring Pride would do, and so prevails to throw down Man (as he thought) into his own condemnation.

The fecond fin of Satan was Lying, as described by our Lord, 70b 8. 44. He abode not in the Truth, but turned from the Truth to his own Lies; for when he speaketh a Ly he speaketh of his own, i. e. his own Nature, and his own Sin; for he is a Lyar,

and the Father thereof.

And thirdly, to Pride and Lying Difobedience must be added: I may say truly, that Pride and Lying is Disobedience it felf, and that all known Disobedience carries Pride and Lying in it : Pride is the cause why Men will not obey, when they know, what they promise themselves in Disobedience proves a Ly.

I am not of the mind as some are: either 1. That in their first Greation they

H 3

their thinking that too mean, was the cause

of their Fall: and that,

I. Because (as I have before minded.) that very probably their Creation and Fall too was before Man was made.

2. Because that Man in his created estate of Innocency had no need of Angels to mi-

nister to him.

3. The World then was not put in fubjection under Angels till after the Fall, but Man was the fole Lord thereof, under his Maker; nor shall it be in subjection to them after Restauration, Heb. 2.5.

and that

Mans rel

on Man Go

was ma

4. Nor was it likely, that they should be affifting him on the spiritual accounts to keep him from fin; for then he had not been left to his free will, in his created ex

fate to fland or fall distal survey ton shoul

Nor 2. do I think their Sin was against the holy Spirit, as fome fuppose, according to the Senfe thereof in Scripture, as it is the unpardonable Sin; (i.e. in their Fall) because they were created upright and holy Creatures, as Man was; and was no more capable to fin that Sin than Man was though all Sin ever was, and is, against the holy Spirit, though not in the Sense as the unpardonable Sin is: they having nothing to provoke them to fin on the one hand, fo nothing to prompt them to constancy in Humility and Obedience on the other hand, but their good created estate, and the GoodGoodness of their Creator; but after their first Sin & Fall, they(doubtless) became the fink of Sin and nursery of all Abomination.

4. Unto what they fell, as into fin, fo 4 Unto into remediless and perpetual misery, ne- what the ver to be restored; but are reserved in fell. everlasting chains of darkness, unto the Judg-

ment of the great day, Jude v. 6.

Quest. Whence is it, that Angels should Quest. fin and fall, without all hope of recovery; and that God should afford a means for Mans recovery after his fin and fall; especially, Angels by Creation being the more noble Creatures

Answ. Next to the wonderful Will and Answ. Counsel of God, according to which he worketh all things, Eph. 1.11. probably it

was ,

1. Because the Angels, in their Creation, were more noble and strong Creatures than Man, who was made of the Unit; and God took it as a more unpardonable Offence in them than of weak Man, who was made of the Dust: for to whom soever much is given of them is much required.

2. Angels, though of a higher degree by Creation, yet fell of their own voluntary will, without any one to tempt them; but Man was tempted to it by the evil one,

and so was snared by temptation.

3. The evil and fallen Angels proceed and perfift in their Pride and Enmity against God and his New Creation, to de-H 4

Of the Devil and evil Angels. Ch.6.

ftroy it immediately; which might tend to provoke God to fet an everlashing Seal of Darkness and Judgment upon them, and to exercise Pity and Compassion towards poor miserable fallen Man, to open a way of recovery, on the terms therein proposed.

Quest. Whence is it, that the Devil should be so irreconcileably and unchangeably set in enmity against mankind, as to make it his whole and unwearied work to be seeking their destruction, and especi-

ally the Saints?

104

Answ. 1. Probably, because when the Angels fell, God made Man, of a lower station than they, to be in some sense in their stead, that so he might delight himself in a

lower Creation, Prov. 8. 31.

2. Because God would not, by any means, lose his poor Creature Man, but brought to light a high and glorious way of Restauration for Man out of his fallen estate, and lest the Angels under Darkness, unto Judgment; which fills them with all enmity both against God and Man; and his great design is to hinder this gracious and glorious Work of the Salvation of Men, though his own Damnation be

Works of the Devil and his Angels against Mantowards kind in general, and they are twofold:

1. Such as respect the Bodies, and out-

ward

of Falls

ward man and estate, if permitted by God, as is clear in the case of fob, Chap. 1, and 2: to smite and afflict him in his Children and Substance, and in his Body too with dreadful Sores and Pains.

of Men, and using them in a dreadful man-

ner, Mat. 8.16. Mar. 9.17;18, 25,26.

3. By stirring up wicked men to persecute the people of God, for their believing and obeying the Truth, Rev. 2. 10. 1 Pet. 5. 8, 9.

2. Such as relate to the Soul.

i. In stirring up and troubling some with Melancholiness, to their great wrong, as in the case of Saul, 1 Sam. 16. 14. 16. 23.

2. To be a Lying Spirit in the mouths of False Prophets and Ministers, to seduce and deceive Souls to their destruction, 1 King. 22. 21,22,23. 2 Cor. 11. 13,14,15,1

3. In blinding the Minds of Unbelievers (where the Gospel is published) to their

destruction, 2 Cor. 4.4.

4. In prevailing over wicked men, to fome grofs and horrible iniquity, and after to follow them with the guilt till they destroy themselves; as in the case of Judas.

5. To reign and rule in the Hearts of wicked men, the Children of Disobedience, as their Lord and King, so making them willingly subject to him, Eph. 2.2. 2 Tim. 2. 26. Col. 1.13.

6. To use all endeavours to intice and infinare the Lords People with Sin, if possible, to ruine them effectually, 2. Cor. 11.3. Eph. 6. 11. 1 Pet. 5.8.

7. To prevent them (if possible) by some means or other from doing that good they

might and ought to do, 1 Thef. 2. 18.

8. To accuse them for their miscarriages (it may be much by his occasion) both before the Lord and in their own Consciences to condemnation, if possible, to drive them to despair, Rev. 12.10. Eph. 6.11, 12, 13.

o. If he have no matter wherewithal to accuse them before God, he will accuse them with what they will do if God will but permit him to afflict them in Body or state; as in the case of Job, chap. 1.11. and

2.5-

10. And finally, He will use all his skill and power to the utmost of his limitation, to bring ruine and destruction both to the Bodies and Souls of Men; for he goeth about like a roaring Lion, seeking whom he may devour.

CHAP.

rure

CHAP. VII.

Of the Fall of Man from his created Innocency.

Hat God made Man upright after his own Image, hath been before treated on, but he continued not in that estate, but fell from it by transgressing the Law of his Maker, in eating the forbidden Fruit, Gen. 2. 16,17. and 3. 3,6,17.

Quest. Was that the only fin and trans- Quest. greffion of our first Parents, that brought in Death and Mifery on Mankind, i.e. the eating of the forbidden Fruit in the Gar-

den?

Answ. It was the only Transgression, Answ. the only Sin and Cause of Death; there is no other thing mentioned in the Scripture; and therefore it is prefumption in any to pretend to more than what is written.

Quest. Is it likely, that God should in- Quest. flict fo great a Judgment for so small a Fact, as the eating of an Apple? will it ap pear to be just and right in God so to

do?

Answ. 1. The less the matter seems to

unl

E Willing

vil tath

32,500

saint an

sainto Into

half dye

Ans

felf and

we all

2011. 5 2. Bec.

Sin ca

be, that is required, or forbidden, the greater is the fin in him that transgreffeth, he that will adventure the transgression of Gods Law for nought, for an Apple, will much more make a breach on a higher account, or supposed advantage: to fin for a little, or small matter, is as truly accounted a prophane spirit, as the greatest finner, Heb. 12. 16. Efau for a morfel of Meat fold his Birth-right. And it argues a base spirit to transgress for a piece of Bread, Prov. 28.21.

2. The wilful breach of a (supposed) little command, is as truly a fin and contempt against God, as the breach of the

greatest.

3. This was a great Command, and all the Commands that God gave to man in his Innocency, fo that it was the only great Command of God given to Man.

4. In this actual Transgression of Eating the forbidden Fruit was contained much of "In Sin, (though the Act it felf was the Trans-

greffion:) For,

1. There was not a giving to God that due Honour and Worship, that was right and meet, nor had he respect to himself and his posterity as he ought, but sinned against God, Himself and Posterity in that one Act; and so transgressed that general Law, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thine Heart, and thy Neighbour as thy self: he failed in both, transgressed both

both, so that though his Sin and Transgression consisted in that one Act, yet it contained in it the breach of the whole Law, was a high affront against God, and wrong to himself and all mankind, attended with Pride, Unbelief and Disobedience; they were willing to be as Gods, and obeyed the Devil rather than God; so that the Sin was a great Sin, especially as committed against an infinite God.

2. Into what he fell, and that is expref- 2 Into what he fed, into a state of Death; in dying thou he fell.

shalt dye.

Quest. Did Adams Sin bring Death upon

himself only?

Answ. It brought in Death upon him-felf and all mankind, and a Curse upon the whole Creation, Gen. 3.17,18, 19. Rom. 5. 17,18,19.

Quest. Whence came it to pass, that the Quest. Sin of one Man should bring in Death, and

a Curfe upon all?

Answ. 1. Because Adam was the Father Ans. of all mankind, he stood as a publick person, and all his posterity was considered as in him, and in him we all sinned, and in him we all fell into the same estate of Death.

Rom. 5. 12.

2. Because the Contagion and Defilement of Sin came into us all, our Natures were corrupted, and by Generation ever fince all the Sons and Daughters of Adam have been sinful, and defiled by Nature even

from'

Quest. What is the reason that the whole Creation should fall together with Man?

foon as born into the World, Pfal. 58. 3.

110

Anfw.

Answ. Because that the whole Creation (of the visible world) was made for the use of Man, and therefore it was just with God, (as a Curse upon Man for his Sin) that it should fall with Man, and be cursed for mans sake, to add to the Curse that came in by sin.

Quest. Quest. What was the Life that Adam lost by his Sin?

Answ. Answ. It was the Deprivation and loss of all that Good in which he was created, free from Sin, Sorrow, Curse and Death.

Quest. What Death was it that came in by Adams Transgression?

Anf. A Death in Soul from the injoyment of Communion with God, a Death in Body, a Death in Sin, and by Sin all the Afflictions, Sorrows, Trouble and Mifery in this world, and an Usher to the Mifery in the world to come, Gen. 3.19. Rom. 5.12.

Quest.

ation y

Men c

face t

that and the sthe

which

is fo

fecon tually Fall: Work

Reftal Reftal

prev.

night

Quest. Was the Death that came in Quest. by Adams Transgression the first Death, that is the Death of the Body, or the first and fecond Death, the Death of Body and Soul eternally in mifery?

Answ. Adams Sin made way to the eternal Death in misery, though not the Answ. cause thereof; for eternal Death and Damnation in Hell is not for Adams Transgreffion, but for the actual Transgressions of Men committed by themselves against God fince the Fall: the Soul that finneth it is that must die this Death: the first Death is the Punishment of Adams. Transgression, which is still in execution; all are liable to it, old and young; but the fecond Death is for Mens actual Transgression against the fecond Covenant, which took place vertually in promise immediately after the Fall, on which account both Man and the World too was referved in order to the

Quest. By what means did Adam thus Quest.

fall into fin and mifery?

Restauration.

Anf. By the Instigation of the Serpent, Answer prevailing upon the Wonian, Gen. 3. 1, 4. which was taken out of him, Gen. 2.21,22. and given to him by the Lord, that she might be a meet help for him, Ge. 2.18. which may teach us, that those things that are ordained by the Lord for the use of Man do oft-times (through Mans weakness) prove to his hurt, Eph. 5.13, 14. and should teach the

rook

him S

the Woman Humility and Subjection to the Man, according to Gods Ordinance, and not to usurp Authority, less the be deceived, and deceive others, as Eve the Mother of all did, I Tim. 2. 12, 13, 14. 1 Cor. 14. 34, 35.

Quest.

Anfw.

Quest. VVas it the Serpent that deceived the Woman? or the Devil in the Serpent? or the Devil in the form of the Serpent?

pent?

Anf. The Devil in the Serpent; for it's faid, that the Serpent was more subtile than any Beaft of the Field, Gen. 3.1. From whence the Devil is called a Serpent for his fubtilty; and his fubtilty (in part) was in making use of the most subtile Creature to effect his defign by: which may teach us, that Satan maketh use of the most subtile and likely ways and means to carry on and accomplish his defigns by, in order to mans destruction. He made use of the Serpent to deceive the Woman, and the VVoman to deceive the Man, the VVoman being the weaker veffel, he affaults her first; and, prevailing on her, his work was more than half done; for the was likelier to deceive the Man than the Serpent was to deceive her: therefore it deeply concerns all (especially VVomen, who are the weaker veffels, and most liable to be deceived) to be very heedful of Satans Wiles, and not to be ignorant of his Devices.

CHAP.

CHAP. VIII.

Of the Way and Means ordained of God for Recovery of Man out of this Estate.

An being fallen by Sin into a state of Death and Misery, gone our from his Maker, God did not let him go, but took hold of him again, designing to do him good, and that immediately after the Fall, in the sirst Promise, Gen. 3. 15. that the Seed of the Woman should break the Serpents Head. It was a Threat to the Serpent, but a Promise to Man; in which behold,

1. The Severity of God:

occasion of Temptation, yet the Curse and Judgment threatned, must come upon him; Severity to the Serpent as a Creature and Beast of the Field, being used by the Devil for effecting so bad a work: therefore cursed must be be above all the Beasts of the Field, on his Belly must be go, and Dust must be eat, and entity hath God set between him and the VV oman, &c. which we see verified according to the VV ord; Severity

against the Devil, the chief agent in the work, expressed in these words, It shall break thy Head. i.e. the Devil; he was the Serpents Head in this defign; the Head is the feat of VVisdom, Government and Speech; the Devil in this fense is said to be the Head, who made use of the Serpent and governed him, and spake in and by him; and therefore the Seed of the Woman, that is, Jesus Christ, that was to be born of a VVoman, should break the Devil in his design, in his present work against mankind: fo that Jesus Christ the Seed of the VV oman to break the Serpents Head, (which was a Threat to the Serpent but a Promise to the VVomans Seed) Mat. 1. 23. Gal. 4.4. is the way and means ordajned by God to recover Man out of that estate into which he fell by fin; that as fin and death came in by Man, fo deliverance out of that estate must come by Man, by Christ Jesus the seed of the VVoman, both God and Man: and this Promise was frequently renewed from age to age, till the fulness of time was come that God had determined; and then (according to this and all his Promises) he sent forth his Son made of a Woman, made under the Law, that he might redeem them that were under the Law. Gal. 4. 4.

be

他

GO

531

Quest.

Quest: VVhat did Jesus Christ, for finners, when he came into the world, in order to the Redemption of Man from fin and death?

Ans

Anf. As the first Man brought in Sin and Death by Disobedience, so Jesus Christ the fecondMan wroughtDeliverance, & brought Life and Immortality to light by Obedience, Rom. 5.9. For as by one mans Disobedience many were made sinners, so by the Obedience of one many shall be made righteous; as Adams Disobedience brought us into a state of Sin and Death, fo Christs Obedience is the alone way by which we must come into a state of Life, if ever we obtain it.

Quest. By what part of Christs Obedi- Quest. ence is it, by which he accomplished the Work? was it by his active or passive O-

bedience, or both?

Anf. In some sense it was by both, but his passive Obedience it was that made a- Answ. ctual satisfaction to the Justice of the Fa-ther for the sin of sinners, so far, as that God for Christs fake will pardon all that in truth believe this glad tidings, and turn to the Lord, receiving him as their only Saviour and Lord, to be faved and ruled by him, Ephef. 5. 2. 1 Joh. 2. 12. Hebr. 5.9.

And his active Obedience, in the fulness and perfection thereof, was his perfect Holiness, by which he was fitted to offer up himself to God an acceptable Sacrifice for finners, which perfect Obedience and Holiness in him as our Head, is become the Believers by imputation, and fo his active Obedience is the Believers Sanctification,

as his passive is his Justification. 1 Cor. 1.30. but of this more in the matter of Justification when I come to speak of that distinctly, fo that, in a word, he gave himself, that is, his Life and Blood, for our Redemption, Justification & Salvation; so that the Death and Sufferings of Christ it was, in which the Father was well pleafed, and fully fatisfied, as a propitiatory Sacrifice for finners, a covering Sacrifice to cover the fins of those who believe and obey the Gospel out of his fight, i.e. the fight of his Justice in the pardon of them, Pfal. 32. 1. Rom. 4. 7, 8. Bleffed are they whose iniquities are forgiven, and whose sins are covered, &c. and nothing can cover fin from Justice, but the Blood, the Sufferings, of the Son of God, Eph. 1.7. Col. 1. 14. which doth prefent us with the evil of fin, and our bad estate thereby, that when God had a mind to help us, nothing less than the Blood of his Son could do it; and with the firstness and severity of Justice in God, that when his own Son had undertaken the fatisfaction, it must cost him his Life and Blood; and the Riches of Grace and Mercy both in the Father and the Son for poor finners; the Father to give the Son to that end, I Joh. 3.16. and the Son to give himself a Sacrifice for finners, 70h.10.17,18. and the Father to accept his own only Son for finners, that fo he might extend Mercy to them, and make them who believe accepted in him. This Grace

1/16

C

cha

th

Grace and Love of the Father and Son is a height and depth unfearchable, if we lived more in the apprehensions thereof, it would fill us more with his fulness, and conform us more to his likeness, Eph. 3. 18, 19. 2 Cor. 3.18.

Quest. Did Christ our Lord give him- Quest. felf a ranfom for all men, or for the elect

only?

Ans. He gave himself a ransom for all Ans. men, to be testified in due time, I Tim. 2. 6. he sasted Death for every man, Heb. 2.9. he was a Propitiation for the sins of the world, I Joh. 2. 2. God was in Christ reconciling the World to himfelf, not imputing their fins, Cor. 5. 19. and God fo loved the whole world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whofoever believeth in him should not perist, but bave everlasting life, Joh. 3. 16.

Object. If it be so these absurdities will Object.

follow.

i. That where Justice is fatisfied the finner must be faved, it feems to be injustice, to take fatisfaction in Christ, and to damn the finners, unless you hold that all shall be faved.

2. Christ suffered in vain, if he bear the fins of any that may miss of Salvation by Him.

Anf. 1. The Satisfaction that God took Anfw. in the Sufferings of Christ, lay more in the Excellency of the Person suffering, than in the Greatness of the things suffered, though

the fufferings were exceeding great, being born by an infinite Person; it was the infinite Worth of the Person that suffered, that set an infinite value on the Suffering, more than if all the World had suffered to eternity, I Peter 18,

of one person, it must have been with the same price; so that Satisfaction for the Sins of the World no whit augmented the price paid; therefore no absurdity at

all.

3. No person is delivered only and simply on the sufferings of Christ, but the satisfaction that God took in the sufferings of Christ was on terms of their believing and obeying the Gospel; and on these terms it is, that the Grace of the New Covenant is published to all, and none are like to partake thereof without Faith, Repentance and Obedience, though not as the meritorious cause, yet as the terms on which it is dispenced, Mar. 16. 16. Luke 24. 47. though, it's true, Repentance effected is the gift of Grace.

4. VVere it not so, the Plaister would not be as large as the VVound, nor the Physicians hand be as large in the Cure, as the Destroyer was to destroy, which seems not only dishonourable to the Undertaking of Christ, but contrary to Rom. 5. 15. to 20. though all partake not of the

benefits,

senel senel

Man

crea

will

fory

Borc

Reco

·life

repe

benefits, the fault is in themselves, and not in the Physician, Hosen 13. 9. 2 Peter 2.1.

5. Yet God had a special respect in this great transaction of the Sussering of his Son, unto his elect, whom he foreknew, and predestinated them to be partakers of the Benefits thereof, Rom. 8. 2, 3, Heb, 2.10. Eph. 5, 25, 26, 27.

6. And finally, the manner and method of Gods work, both in the Creation of

Man and fince the Fall, was

17

ng

se

0-

re

the the

on

uke

fe'

uld

the

re,

hich

I. He made Man upright in his own Image, and so left him in that good created estate, to his own power and will to stand or fall: God did not act to forward his Fall, nor yet to hinder it, more than give his Law of Command, with the Threat on Disobedience; but he sinned voluntarily, by the temptation offered.

2. Man being fallen from God, he hath provided a Remedy, a bleffed way of Recovery; and this Remedy is as large as the cafe requireth, and is to be published and tendred to all, (and that truly too) on the terms thereof; that is, Faith, Repentance and fincere Obedience, &c. that now whoever will, may come and take of this Water of Life freely; and Man is left free to accept or not accept; and so mans Destruction will be (the second time) of himself.

IA

God

The Means of Mans Recovery. Ch.8.

120

God hath not bound himself, nor is he tyed in Justice to work men to the terms prescribed, nor doth he any thing to hinder, but very much the contrary, not only in the All-sufficiency of the Means, but by the publishing thereof, and manifold mercies, and invitations to Repentance.

Affiliance to any, is his superabounding Mercy, and it no whit derogates from from his general Love, Kindness and Provision for mankind in general: and it is mans wilful wickedness, in choosing Death, rather than Life, and thereby judge themselves unworthy of the Life

that is offered to them.

It is true, God foresaw Man in his fallen state; and faw, that notwithstanding the Greatness of the Grace of his New Covenant, yet that none would of themselves seek after God, and sincerely cleave unto him in that New and Livings way, on which he did determine: and it was the Covenant, and Contract between the Father and the Son, (in this great Undertaking, that his Suffering might not be in vain) to bring in fome Souls effectually into the Grace of the Covenant, and that not from any natural good in them more than others, but without all respect of persons, only his special and superabounding Grace; having Ch.8. The Means of Mans Recovery.

121

having passed no Act, but as relative to Sin and Disobedience, that may hinder any: but hath afforded both Means and Helps sufficient, by which men might believe, obey, and be saved: but they will not.

real second control of the second control of

He defign of God by Joins Clarit in

of the Man in the second to ped fire; but

Working as much as this old Cremical vies being a little of Cod by Alples Child was the relovely and relient sport of all events, and to make all News, and to make all News, and of the views

CHAP

The second standard of the Ville

bay, education in the ball to elimina

CHAP. IX.

of the design of God in general, in this his New Covenant, Restauration-Work, which was to make all things New.

Rig

He delign of God by Jesus Christ in his New Covenant - work, was, to make all things New, Rev. 21.5. And he that fate upon the Throne, faid, behold I make all things New, &c. God made the first, or old World, both Heavens and Earth, and all things therein for the use of man, and then made man to possess it; but man fell by fin, and the whole Creation fell with him, as a just Judgment of God upon man for his fin, Gen. 3. 17. Job 15. 15. Now in as much as this old Creation was lost and faln, the design of God by Jesus Christ was the recovery and restauration of all again, and to make all New, not of new matter that was not before, but to make the Old New again; all Old things must be made New.

What will Quest. What is it that God designed by

God make Jesus Christ to make New?

Answ. 1. A new people, brought out from the old stock; a people renewed by the

the power and spirit of Grace, by and through the Gospel; and this is that which is owned of all the godly, witnessed in the Scriptures, and in a measure experienced by all the Saints, 2 Cor. 15.17. If any man be in Christ, he is a New Creature, Old things are past away, behold all things are become New, Eph. 4.23, 24. Be renewed in the Stirit of your mind; and that ye put on the New Man, which after God, is Created in Righteousness and true Holiness, and this is that birth which is from above, without which, no man can fee the Kingdome of Heaven, Joh. 3. 3.

Obj. This is effected here in the Kingdome

of Grace, &c.

8. Answ. True, It is so, in the beginnings thereof, in order to its perfection in the Kingdom of glory; for it will not be perfected till the Refurrection of the body from the dead, that is called the day of Redemption, Rom. 8. 23. Eph. 4. 30. It is perfected already in Christ our head, the fecond Adam, who was the Lord from Heaven; but it must have its time of perfecting in the members, begun here, and perfected in the day of Christ, 1 Cor. 13. 10. then it is, that our vile bodies (hall be changed and fashioned like unto his glorious Body, Phil. 3. 21. Then the whole man shall come forth compleat in the Heavenly Birth.

2. This new Creation shall be effected 2 By a by, and under a New Covenant; man loft ne o Co-

all in the breach of the Old Covenant, but by the New Covenant he shall be renewed, and become Heir of all things, in, and with Christ the Head and Lord thereof, it's New-Covenant Grace, and New-Covenant-Work, all true blessedness is by the New Covenant, i.e. the Covenant of this new estate, Jer. 31. 31. Heb. 8. 8. 13. & 12. 24.

Obj. This Covenant is faid to be made, and to be of force from the death of the

Testator.

An. True, it is so, it took its effect then, and virtually from the Fall; from the first Promise, that the Seed of the Woman should break the Serpents head; so that all the Saints since the Fall, were renewed and sanctified by virtue of this Covenant, which became the alone ministration of God to men, after the death of the Testator, in, and with whom the Covenant was made, and that before the world was, 2 Tim. 4 9. Tit. 1.2. so that it hath had its effect virtually from the beginning, as a preparation to glory, but it is indeed the Covenant of the glorious Estate.

3 A new Law. 3. And in this New Covenant is brought forth a new Law, for this new People, the Law of Faith, and the Law of Love, Joh. 13.34. A new Commandement give I unto you, that ye love one another, &c.

Obj. This was the Old Commandement, and from the beginning, the Sum of the

whole

1

Whole Law, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy might, and thy Neighbour

as thy self.

Anf. True, as the Law, it did require it, as imployed in it, but if any answered it, it was by the Grace of the New Covenant, though the duty of the Old; but now its the duty of the New Covenant, feated on the new terms of the Gospel, from the grace thereof, from the love of Christ, and effected thereby, Rom. 5. 5. The love of Christ is shed abroad in our hearts by the holy Spirit that he hath given to us, I Joh. 4. 19. We love him, because he loved us first: its therefore new, because in all the Saints its not only required, but is true both in him, (i. e. Christ) and in you, i. e. the Saints; and this is that which is, and shall be, the great Law of the perfect and glorious Estate, in the new world, and that to Eternity.

4. There shall be a new habitation, or 4 A new dwelling place for these new people, a new Habitati-Heaven, and a new Earth, Rev. 21.1. I saw a onnew Heaven, and a new Earth, and the first Heaven & the first Earth was past away &c. If.65.17.& 66.17. to these Peter hath Relation, 2 Pet. 3. 13. Nevertheless, we according to his promise, look for new Heavens, and a new Earth wherein dwelleth Righteoufness; in which note 1. That the Apostle in this Scripture, relates to the promife before mentioned, If a.5.17 as appears in that he uses the express terms of that promise, and there

there is no other promise thereof in the terms exprest, in the OldTestament, 2. That it is to be understood literally, and not mystically, or spiritually, that is a wrong to the Scripture; for it is the material vilible Heavens and Earth that Peter treateth of, verf. 5, 6, 7. its the same that must be diffolyed, and this is that which is frequently called in Scripture, the World, or Earth to come, Mat. 12, 32. Luk. 2. 35. Heb.2.5, the world, of which the Saints by Faith, are made Heirs, Rom. 4. 13. For the Promife that Abraham (hould be the Heir of the world, was not to Abraham, or his Seed through the Law, but through the Righteonfness of Faith, and this cannot be understood that it intends, that all Believers should be accounted his Children (though that be a truth, and is exprest, verf. 11.) and that for two reasons: 1. It's improper so to understand it, for so believers are rather his Heirs, his Children, and not he their Heir, for in this he is to be Heir of the world. 2. Because in this Heir-ship of Abraham to the world, his Children are Heirs to the same Promise with him, the Promife is to Abraham and his Seed, verf. 16. therefore it is of Faith, that it might be by Grace, that the Promise might be fure to all the Seed. What Promise? to be the Heirs of the world : this is the Country that our Fathers were feeking after, and dyed in the Faith thereof, Heb. 11, 13,14, 15. Wherefore God hath prepared for them a City

and v

City, verf. 16. a Holy and Heavenly City, that must come down into this new world, Rev. 21. 2. New Jerusalem, that must come down from God out of Heaven, that the Tabernacle of God may be with men.

Obj. This feems to be explained, verf. 9. Object. 10. to be the Church, the Bride, the Lambs

Wife.

Answ. I question not, but that the Church, the Bride, the Lambs Wife, is included herein, but it's a description, both of the City and of the Inhabitants, the like we have, chap. 3.12. aud Gal. 4.25. Old Jerusalem was in Bondage with her Children, and verf. 26. but Jerusalem which is above is free, which is the Mother of us all. Here is new Jerusalem, the holy City, which is above, and her Children, which are the Saints exprest in these words, which is the Mother of us all; who are born from thence, nithout which they cannot see the Kingdom of God, Joh. 3. 3. fee Pfal. 87.3. and in this is clearly a distinction between the City and the Inhabitants, Heb. 12. 22, 23.

5. The Saints shall then have a new 5 A new name, Rev. 2. 17. and 3. 12. as they are Coverant already in some measure made partakers of the new nature, and new name, they shall then be perfected therein 2 Pet. 1.4. Phil. 3. 21. 1 Cor. 15. 44. 48, 49. 53, 54. they shall have a new name, Ifa.55.15. he will call his Servants by another name, hap. 62. 2. and thou shalt be called by another

Name-

Name, which the Mouth of the Lord hall Name; the Lord will take away that Name. of Reproach which his people hath had in the world throughout all ages, and they shall be known and owned (even by their Enemics) to be the bleffed of the Lord, Ifa. 61.9. All that fee them, Shall acknowledge that they are the Seed which the Lord hath bleffed, chap. 60. 14. The Sons also of them. that afflicted thee, shall come bending unto thee, and all they that despised thee, shall bow themselves down at the soles of thy feet, and they shall call thee the City of the Lord, the Zion of the Holy one of Israel.

6 Shall fing new Songs of Praise.

6. In this new Estate, their work shall be to sing new songs of praise to God, and to the Lamb, Rev. 5.9. & 4.8. that is it the prophet speaks fo much of, and exhorts so much unto, singing of new fongs, Pfal. 96.1. and 98. 1. it relates especially to this Estate, they shall sing such new songs of praise to God, and to the Lamb, as none can learn but the Redeemed ones, fuitable to the measure of the new work in them; can the Saints now fing new fongs, (or elfe they were better fing none,) but then they shall be compleated therein, without mixture.

Reasons from Scripture further to illustrate and confirm this glorious Truth. 1. Its the accomplishment of the Eternal Counsel and purpose of God, the Prophet speaking of this same work (i. e. the Restauration,) saith Isa. 25. 1. Thy Counsels

ein?

Cholea

1119

Graces

% in

elieve

tereio

Chi

le fee

of old are Faithfulness and Truth: So like- Reason Wife the Apostle Paul deeply discoursing, & Further discovering this Mistery of the Restauration this Truth by Jefus Christ, in the New Covenant, faith 1. The Eph. 1.11. Who worketh all things after the purpose Counsel of his own Will. Hence it is, that and coung Jesus Christ by whom the Work was to be fel of accomplished, was from Everlasting, Mic. God. 5. 2. John 6.38, 40. And the Mercy of God herein, is from Everlasting to Everlasting.

2. His Eternal Grace and-Love to his 2. His Chosen Ones, whom he purposed to this E- Grace state, therein to glorifie the Riches of his Love. Grace, and to glorifie them with this Glory, in this New World, Fer. 31. 3. 2 Tim.

1.9,10.

3. This is the substance and Life of the 3. This is New Covenant, which all true Christians the subbelieve; and should claim their Interest stance of the New] therein; and indeed, it is of concernment to Covenants all Believers to understand, what, and wherein Heirship doth confist, which is to this New World: fee the New Covenant, Gen. 12. 3. and 22. 18. In thy Seed (that is in Christ) (hall all Nations of the Earth be bleffed. This Promise in the word Blessed, includes the Bleffedness of this New World, to the Heirs thereof . So the Apostle applyeth it, as hath been before minded, Rom.4. 13,16. Gal 3.18,19,29. in all which it's evidenr, that the Hierthip of Abraham and his Seed, (that is Believers) by vertue of the New Covenant, is to this Inheritance, which of white stoke and to ferves

ferves to open the Heirship spoken of in all other Scriptures; I mean, the New Cove-

nant Heirship.

4. It was the de-Signe of God, manifelt fince the Fall.

4. It was the great Defigne of God, made manifest ever fince the Fall; and all things fince hath been working in order thereunto. Gen. 3. 15. and 12. 3. Pfal. 37. 11. With Mat. 5. 3 Rev. 5.10. It was the great Defigne of God, in fending Christ into the World; and of Christ in coming into the World, to do that for the World, without which, this new Work and World could nor be accomplished, Heb. 11.40. And in order to the accomplishing hereof, he is ascended up where he was before, to prepare a place for his People, John 14.2,3. and to prepare a people for that place, Heb.12.2. 2 Cor.5. 5. And when he comes again the fecond time in his Power and Glory, it will be in order to the finishing of this Work, Mat.25. 34. Rev. 21.1. to the

Object. It's frequently said in Scripture, that the Reward of the Saints is in Heaven, That it's laid up in Heaven for them, &c.

1 Pet. 1.4.

Anf. It is true: it is so, and that without any Contradiction at all to this present Truth, which is so apparantly held forth in Scripture. It behoves us fo to Understand one Truth, as not to lofe, or destroy another; which hath been a great Weakness amongst Christians. But let us fee a little how both may stand together; the Inheritance of the Saints may be faid to be in

Hea-

9.

Yeard

ith!

nd arch

Heaven, and to be reserved in Heaven for them.

1. As all the good Gifts of God given to the Saints, on the Gospel account, now in this day of Grace, in order to that Glory, are faid (in fence and substance) to be in Heaven; for our Heavenly Birth must be from thence. John 3. 3. Except a man be born again above for the Word is) he cannot see the Kingdom of Heaven. ferusalem which is above, is the Mother of us all, and every good and perfect Gift cometh down from the Father of Lights, Jam. x. 17. And doubtless the Glory of that Estate is administred here below, by the Word and Spirit, I Cor. 2, 9, 10, 12. But the Glory it felf is referved in Heaven, till the time appointed, and then the Glory shall be administred down from thence as now the Grace, and gracious Gifts are.

2. We Read in Scripture, that Wew ferusalem must come down from God out of Heaven, and the Tabernacle of God will be with them, Rom. 21.23. So that it may very well stand together, that it is in Heaven, and yet shall come down into the New Earth.

No wonder, if that State and Glory of the Saints is called Heaven then, when in perfection in the New earth, and New state of the Church in it's imperfection, in this side that Glory (because made partakers of some of the Virtues of Grace) is called Heaven; and the Kingdom of Heaven, Mat. 13. 31,

Of the general Designe of God &c. Chap.9.

32, 47. and 25.1. Rev. 18. 20. 3. It is faid in Scripture, that the Bodies of the Saints shall be fashioned like unto the Body of our Lord Jesus, Phil 3 21. and they shall be like unto the Angels, Luke 20 36. and that they shall have Spiritual Bodies, 1 Cor. 15. 44. Capable to ascend and descend; and to may have the possession of Heaven, as well as of the Earth, if it will add to their Glory; But he will make the place of his Feet glorious, Ifa. 60. 13. and what place that is, fee Ch. 66. 1. Mat. 10. 35 Att. 7.49. To conclude this Chapter; this opens a Window into that Truth, fo much by most condemned; that is, the personal Reign of Christ, with his Saints, where it's like to be, no doubt but in this New World. must have the Glory there, it cost him so Dear in preparing for it, and purchasing of ir. Eph.1.14. In a word, it is, and shall be made by him, and for him. But of this I shall speak in Chap. 31. more fully and di-

stinctly.

CHAP.

God

, b,

one

elle

CHAP. X.

Of the Order and Method of God, in preparing a People for this Glorious Estate; which is, 1. By Effectual Calling.

AN being created in a good Estate, chip to and by Sin faln from God, gone out into Darkness, Wrath, and Enmity: And God having opened a way of Recovery, that is, by Jesus Christ crucified. I shall now come to speak something of the Order and Method of God, in preparing, and bringing up a People to this State of Glory; and that is,

T. By Essential Calling; although it's of Essentiue, that Essential Calling concludes the sual calling whole Work of Grace, in order to Glory, ling, or else it is not Essential. Yet in as much as it is so frequently, and distinctly spoken of in Scripture, I shall speak of it distinctly, to pass by the various use of the word, Call, Called, and Calling, in the Scripture sence; I shall speak only of this Calling unto, and of Sinners, out of their lost Essate by Sin. Unto God by Jesus Christ

The Scripture prefents us with, 1. A general Call, or Calling to all; as all have K 2 finned,

ral Calling to all.

x. Agene- finned, and come short of the Glory of God. and he hath opened a Way and Means full of Sufficiency for All; therefore he calls upon All to come in, and accept of this Grace, where the Word of the Gospel comes; and where it doth not, his Works doth fo far, and fufficiently declare, and make known God to the World, as that they shall be inexcufable in the Day of Accounts, Rom. 1. 20. This general Call by the Gospel to Sinners. is fully confirmed in the Commission of Christ, given to his Apostles and Ministers. Mark 16.15. Go ye into all the World, and preach the Gospel to every Creature, &c. See, it's likewise confirmed, Prov. 8. 1. to 10. and 9.1. to 6. And of this first fort of Call. many, yea multitudes, are called, that will not Obey, which is their fin, and will be their Condemnation, Prov. 1. 20, 24. The Truth hereof we fee daily by woful Experience, that Men refuse their own Mercy, and destroy themselves, Hof. 13. 9. They judge themselves unworthy of the Life tendered them in the Gospel, in refusing the Wayes of Life, and chooling the Wayes of Death and Darkness; preferring the Devil and his fervice before the Lord Jesus and his Ways of Life.

2. A more 2. Others there are, who pretend to yield particular Obedience to the Heavenly Call, and come Calling. into the Profession thereof; but it is but faignedly, not in Truth, and with their whole Hearts, to give up themselves to God therein, and so come short of the Glory prepared,

and

Porte

Prof

WAS

Defit make

plane for the Sca

terior felion

in the

Heart 100 8

Or

and promised; not because there is any failing in the Truth of God, but because their Hearts was not Right with God, neither were they stedfast in his Covenant; but like treacherous Judah, they turned not unto the Lord, with their whole Hearts, but feignedly, Jer. 3.10. And of this sort are such as either, 1. Receive the Word with Joy, without any Heart-Conversion to the Lord; and for a while Believe, but when Tribulation, and Persecution ariseth because of the Word, by and by they are offended: Or, 2. Such as Profess to know God, but in Works deny him, being Abominable, and Disobedient, and to every Good Work a Reprobate, Tit. 1.6.

Or, 317. Such as are palpably Hypocrites, who come into the Profession of the Gospel, Designing some Base ends to themselves, and make use of Protession to Cloak their wickedness withal; of the Discovery of these, the Scripture is sull, Mat. 15. and 23 Chapters: And of Such is to be feared, there hath heen, and still are many in the visible Profession of the Way of Life, but such are still in the Way of Death; For the Hypocrite in Heart do heap up Wrath, Job 36.13. And the Hope of the Hypocrite shall perish, Job 8.13.

Or, 4ly. Such as Foolishly content themfelves with Lamps (that is, visible Profession of Truth) without Oyl in their Vessels; that is, the Annoynting of the Spirit and truth of Grace and Life in the Heart, like the Foolish Virgins, Mat. 25.2,3,8.-:11,12. And thus

K 4

thus having not the Wedding-Garment, i. e. Cloathed and Covered with the Righteoufness of Jesus Christ, by Faith and sincere Obedience, come Short of Obtaining the End of the Heavenly Calling; and to the Truth of that Word will appear, Mar. 22.11,12 That many are Called, but few are Cho-

2. Is the effectual Galling.

fen. A Third Sort of Call is; fuch as are Effeetually called, by the Power of Christ in the Word of the Gospel, And turned from Darkness to Light; and from the Power of Satan unto God: Such a Call as the Apostle was Partaker of, Gal.1.15,16. But when it pleased God, who separated me from my Mo-thers Womb, and called me by his Grace to Reveal his Son in me, &cc. And this Call is Effected by the Word of God's Grace, which is his General Call to all, and Effected by some secret Divine Operation of the Holy Spirit in the Word of Grace, begetting Souls to the Lively Faith, and Hope of the Gospel, Sam. 1.18. 1 Pet.1.2. And this Lively Faith and Hope, where it is in Truth; that is, where this Effectual Calling is, it is of a purifying Nature, Alls 15 9. 1 John 3.3. Every man that hath this Hope in him, purifyeth himself as he is Pure. This Divine Calling, it is in Scripture called:

1. A High Calling, Phil. 3.14. Not only because it's Effected from on High, but because they are called to High Things; made Partakers of Heavenly Virtues; in-

terested

ve let let B

our B

Hono

sence Port

ion,

bers a gorket

Boya

Holins

words

har it

he pro

terested in High and Heavenly Relations; the Children and Servants of the most High God, as also interested in the High and Heavenly Glory, Made Heirs according to the Hope of Eternal Life.

2. A Holy Calling, 2 Tim. 1. 9. Called to Holiness, 1 Thef. 4. 7. verf. 3. 4. For this is the Will of God, your Santtification, that you should abstain from Fornication; that every one of you should know how to possess his Vessel in Santtification and Honour. By Veffel in this place, I understand is intended our Bodies; that every one might know how to possess his Body in Sanctification and Honour: So the word Veffel in Scripture Sence imports, Acts 9. 15. 2 Cor. 4. 7. For the Luft of Concupifcence and Fornication, arifeth in the Heart, and the Members are but Instruments to Execute what worketh from within; and the Scripture faith, that the Body is not for Fornication, but for the Lord; and know ye not, that your Body is the Temple of the Holy Spirit, 1 Cor. 6.13,19. The Lord hath called his People to Holiness here, and to Happiness hereafter ; wonderfully are they mistaken, who think that the Calling to Christianity, is only to the Profession thereof here, and the Glory thereof hereafter, without Holiness, when the Scripture faith in express Terms, that without Holiness, no man (hall fee the Lord, Heb.12.14.

3. A Calling to Glory and Virtue, 2 Pet. 1.3. Glorious Relation, and virtuous Conversation : OfGod's Order in preparing, &c. Chap. 10.

versation; or Virtue, as the Way; and Glory, as the End: This is that Calling the Apostle mentions, Rom. 8. 28. Who are the Called ecording to his purpofe. And therefore it greatly behoves fuch to walk worthy of God, who hath called them to his Kingdome and

Glory, 1 Thef. 2.12.

138

4. It's called a Heavenly Calling, Heb. 3 1. Wherefare Holy Brethren, partakers of the Heavenly Calling; it's effected from Heaven, and poffeffeth the Soul with a Heavenly Mind, and interesteth in Heavenly Glory; it being fuch a High, Holy, Heavenly, Virtuous, and Glorious Calling : It greatly concerns such to Honour their Chris stian Calling; that as he that hath called them is Holy, so be ye Holy in all manner of Conversation and Godliness, 1 Pet 1.15.

The fum of the Matter wherein this Effectual Calling consists; it is an Effectual turning of the whole Man, from Sin and Satan to God, (in the way of the Gospel) both in Heart and Conversation; or an Effectual yielding up our selves in Obedience to the Heavenly Call, fincerely turning to and following of the Lord; as Paul, Gali 1.15,16. Acts 26.19. And with purpose of Heart to cleave to, and follow the Lord, in way of constant, universal, and sincere Obedience: This is the special Effectual Calling, According to his purpofe, to the obtaining of the Glory of our Lord Jesus Christ, and gives Right to the Promise of the Eternal Inheritance, Heb. 9. 15.

CHAP.

FAI

Pon,

Salvari

Daron

dillin

Virtue Fairb c

(peaking

it solett

lieve G.

Beller T

Relatio

nane .

ine Re ine Fari

South

with L

Court et

Con at