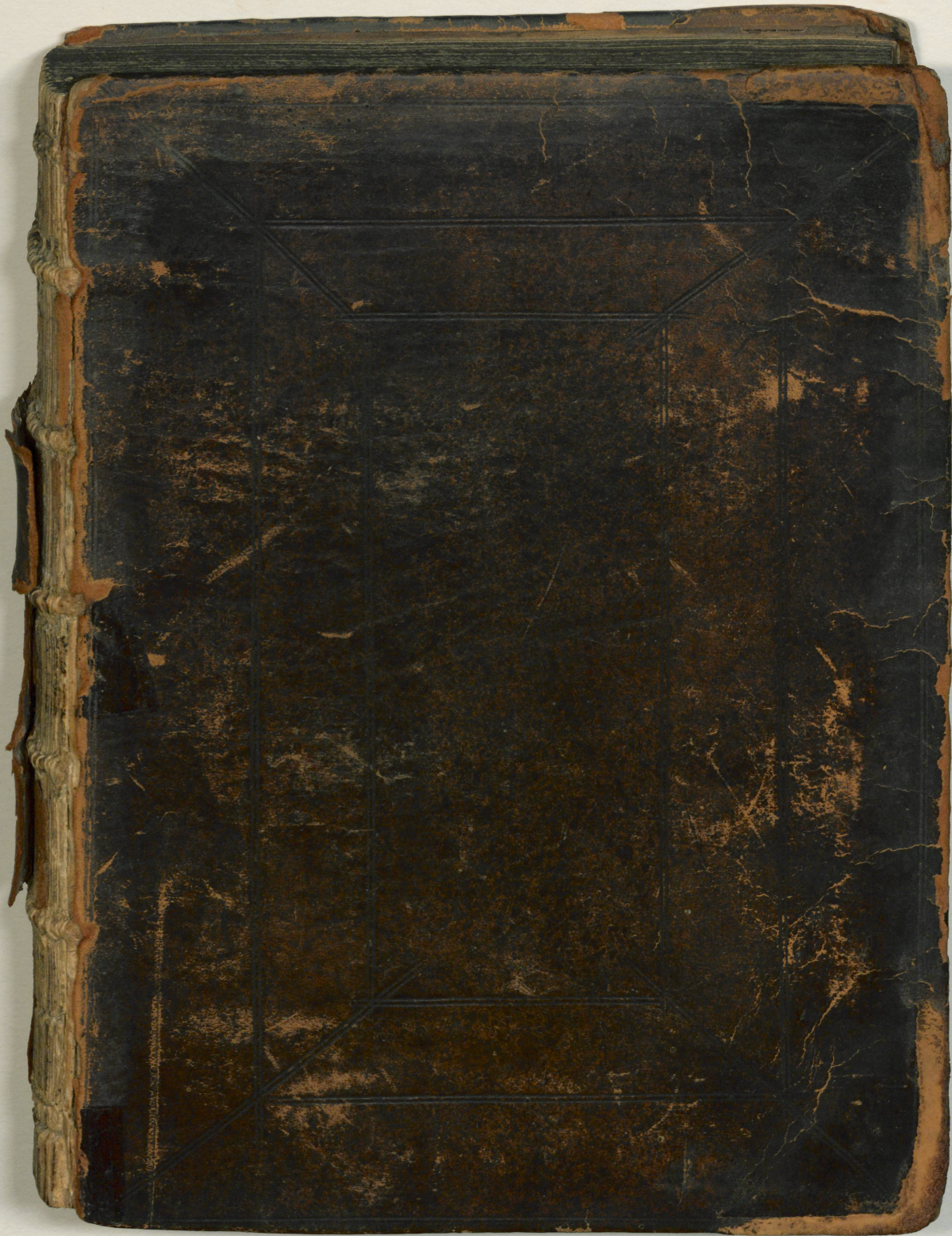


# **Special Note:**

**The following  
pagination shown as  
per original.**







Famil. Schiller



A  
S A I N T  
OR A  
B R U T E

*The Certain Necessity and Excellency*  
of *Holiness*, &c. So plainly proved, and urgent-  
ly applied, as by the blessing of God may convince  
and save the miserable, impenitent, ungodly Sensua-  
lists, if they will not let the Devil hinder them from a  
sober and serious reading and considering.

To be Communicated by the Charitable, that desire the  
Conversion and Salvation of Souls, while the Patience of  
God, and the day of Grace and Hope continue.

By *Richard Baxter*.

*The First Part :*  
Shewing the *Necessity of Holiness*.

L O N D O N,

Printed by R. W. for Francis Tyton, at the three daggers  
in Fleet-street, and Nevil Simmons Bookseller at  
Kedermister, Anno Dom. 1662.



Edw Loe  
His Book  
1727





*To my dearly beloved Friends, the Inhabitants of Kederminster in Worcester-shire ; and my late Auditors in the City of London: Confirming Grace, with Patience, Love and Peace be multiplied.*

---

*Dear Friends,*

**O**Nce more, through the great mercy of God, I have liberty to send you a Preacher for your private families, which may speak to you (truly and plainly, though not elegantly) when I cannot, and when I lie silent in the dust. I take it for no small mercy that I have been so much employed about the Great and



Necessary things, in despite of all the malice of Satan, who would have entangled me, and taken up my time, in personal vindications and barren controversies. As I never knew that I had one enemy in the world that ever was acquainted with me; so those that know me, dissuading me from Apologies against the accusations of those that know me not, have spared my time for better work. Though there is about fifty writings (in whole or part) against me published, (by Infidels, Seekers, Familists, Enthusiasts, Quakers, Papists, Antinomians, Levellers, Covenant-breakers, State-subverters, Church-dividers, besides impatient dissenting Brethren, and Dependants that took it for the rising way), I yet find no cause (as to the present age, and those that know me) to be at any great care or pains for a defence; while malicious lyes do but make men wonder, that wrinkled Envy should be so mad as to come so naked on the Stage, and shew her ugly deformities to the world, and could not stay at least till Wit had helpt her to a Cloak.

I was also when I first intended Writing under another temptation; being of their mind that thought that nothing should be made publike, but what a man had first laid out his choicest



choicest art upon : I thought to have acquainted the world with nothing but what was the work of *Time* and *Diligence* : But my conscience soon told me, that there was too much of *Pride* and *Selfishness* in this ; and that *Humility* and *Self-denyal* required me to lay by the affectation of that stile, and spare that industrie, which tended but to advance my name with men, when it hindred the main work, and crost my end : And Providence drawing forth some popular unpolished Discourses, and giving them success beyond my expectation, did thereby rebuke my selfish thoughts, and satisfie me that the *Truths of God* do perform their work more by their *Divine Authority*, and *proper Evidence*, and *material Excellency*, than by any ornaments of *fleshly wisdom* : and (as *Seneca* saith) though I will not despise an *elegant Physicion*, yet will I not think my self much the happyer, for his adding eloquence to his healing art. Being encouraged then by *Reason* and *Experience*, I venture these popular Sermons into the world ; and especially for the use of you, my late Auditors, that heard them. I bless God that, when more worthy Labourers are fain to weep over their obstinate, unprofitable, unthankful people, and some are driven away by



their injuries, and put to shake off the dust of their feet against them; I am rather forced to weep over my own unthankful heart, that did not sufficiently value the mercy of a faithful flock, who parted with me rather as the *Ephesians* with *Paul*, *Acts* 20. and who have lived according to this *Plain and Necessary* doctrine which they have received: Among whom Papists, that perswade men that our doctrine tendeth to divisions, can find no divisions or sects: Who have constantly disowned both the *Ambitious usurpations* which have shaken the Kingdom; and the *Factions, Censoriousness, and cruel violence* in the Church, which *Pride* hath generated and nourished in this trying Age. Among whom I have enjoyed so very large a proportion of mercy, in the liberty of so long an exercise of my Ministry, with so unusual advantage and success, that I must be disingenuously unthankfull if I should murmur and repine at the present restraining hand of God: But I must say with *David*, 2 Sam. 15. 25. [If I shall find favour in the eyes of the Lord, he will bring me again and shew me a new Ark and habitation (There or elsewhere use me in his service): But if he say, I have no delight in thee, behold here I am, let him do to me as it seemeth good unto him.

And



And now with this Treatise, let me leave you these few seasonable requests.

1. Be faithful to your faithful Pastors : Think not that you can live in *order and safety* without their Ministry. When you can, attend their *publike Ministry* ! Refuse not their *more private help* : Read well my two sheets for the Ministry : Where the *lawful Pastor* is, there the *Church is* : Be not either *impiously indifferent* in your worshipping of God, or *peevishly quarrelsome* with what is commanded or practised by others, nor disobedient to Authority in lawful things.

2. Maintain still your antient Love and Unity and Peace among your selves, and improve your company and converse to the advantage of your souls. Be daily interlocutory preachers to one another : Speak as the Oracles of God ; and Preach by a holy, patient, harmless, charitable and heavenly life. This kind of Preaching none can silence but your own corruptions.

3. Improve the profitable books which are among you. 1. Read them frequently, and reverently, and seriously to your families ; when you have called them together, and prayed for Gods blessing: 2. Carry them abroad with you,



you, and when you fall into company where you cannot better spend your time, read to them some seasonable passages of such writings. 3. Give or Lend them to those that need, and want either *Purses* or *Hearts* to provide them; and get them to promise you to read them, and enquire after the success. By such improvement Books may become such *Seconds* or *Substitutes* to publike preaching, as that they may not be the least support of Religion and means to mens edification and salvation.

*Fortifie* 4. Make special and diligent provision to ~~fortifie~~ your selves and others against Popery, which is like to be none of the least of your temptations. To this end, I pray you read well the *single sheet against Popery* which I published, and give of them abroad to others where there is need: Read also my other books against it: (*My Safe Religion*, and *Key for Catholicks*, and *Dispute with Mr. Johnson*) and Dr. *Challoners Credo Sanctam Ecclesiam Catholicam*: And when their sophistry puzzleth you, 1. Call your able Pastors to debate it. 2. And remember that they have the *Scripture*, and the *far greater part of the universal Church*, and the *senses of all the world* to confute, before they can make good the cause ~~their~~ of ambitious Clergy.



Clergy. If you are but sure you know *Bread* and *Wine* when you see, and feel, and smell, and taste them, then you are at the end of controversie with the Papists. Above all, see that you maintain the Love of God, and a heavenly mind, and mortified affections, and grow not opinionative, superficial or loose in your Religion: For he that is heartily of no Religion, is prepared to be of any Religion: And it is because men are false to the acknowledged Truth, that they are given up to make a Religion of deceit and falshood: Your fidelity to your King and Countrey, obligeth you to do your part to preserve the subjects from a disease so injurious to them. Saith Dr. Sherman in his late [ *Account of Faith* ] against the Papist, Pref. p. 4, 5. [ *If Kings would think upon it, there might be no Popes; since if Popes could well help it, there should be no Kings.* ]

5. Take heed of all temptations to turbulency, resisting of Authority, or other unlawfull means in the obeying of your passions or discontents. As God chose most eminently to Glorifie his Power under the *Law of Works*, and the *spirit of bondage to fear* did much prevail; but under the *Gospel* he hath chosen most eminently to magnifie his Goodness, Love and Mercy; so ac-



cordingly is the *impress* made upon his servants hearts: They are animated by Love, for the propagating of Love; and therefore must work with *Instruments of Love*. And if we had well learnt the *Doctrine and Example* of our Lord, and made it our work to Love all, and to do good to all, and hurt to none, and with meekness and patience to let any hurt us, rather then do any thing for our own defence, which is against the *Law of Love*, we should see that Christianity would better thrive, when it would be better understood by the practice of the professors. Often have I noted that a whole flock of sheep will run away from the smallest dog, and yet there is few of them killed by dogs, because they are under their Masters care; when a Woolf or Fox is pursued by all, and few of them suffered to live. And oft have I observed, that when men that shift for themselves can scarce pass the streets, yet children play in the way of Carts and Coaches without hurt, while every one takes it for his care to preserve them, that cannot take care of and preserve themselves. And though the Deer that is within the Park is killed when the Owner please, yet he is preserved there from others, when the wild and stragling Deer that are abroad, are a prey to any man that can catch or kill them.

Hee



He that saveth his life shall lose it, and he that loseth it for Christ shall save it.

The Lord stablish, strengthen, direct, and preserve you to his Kingdom, and keep you from the passions of corrupted nature, and from the snares and rage of a deceitful and malicious world; I beseech you continue yet your prayers for him that desireth no greater advancement in the world, than to be

*The servant of Christ, and*

*June 7. 1662.*

*Helper of your Joy,*

Rich. Baxter.

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## The Contents.

### Part I.

<b>P</b> reface : <i>The contempt of Godliness rebuked,</i>	pag. 1
<i>Godliness described: what it containeth; and what I mean</i>	
<i>by Godliness throughout this Treatise,</i>	P. 5
<i>Signs of true Godliness,</i>	P. 14
<i>Directions for such as will be soundly and sincerely godly,</i>	P. 18

<b>L</b> uke 10 41, 42. <i>The design of the Treatise,</i>	P. 1
<i>The Text explained,</i>	P. 3, &c.
1. Obs. <i>Nearest natural relations are not alwayes of one mind in the matters of salvation,</i>	P. 8
2. Obs. <i>When Christ cometh into the house, he is presently at work for the hearers souls,</i>	P. 8
3. Obs. <i>When the word is preached we must hear,</i>	P. 9
4. Obs. <i>The humility of Disciples in those times.</i>	ib.
<i>The sense of the Text in seven Doctrines,</i>	P. 10
Doct. 1. <i>One thing is Needful : It is One thing that is absolutely Necessary; but they busie themselves about many, that neglect this one,</i>	P. 11
<i>In what respect it is One, and but One,</i>	ibid.
<i>How the troubling matters of the World are many,</i>	P. 13
<i>How far the One thing is Necessary,</i>	P. 15
Qu. <i>Are not other things Needful in their places?</i>	P. 18
<i>The Application 1. by way of inquiry, how you have sought the One thing Necessary,</i>	P. 20
<i>How a true Christian differeth from all hypocrites,</i>	P. 22
I. <i>What</i>	



## The Contents.

1. Whatever you have been doing in the World, you have but lost your Time, if you have not done the One thing Needful,	p. 25
2. And you have lost all your labour,	p. 26
3. You have been busily undoing your selves,	p. 29
4. You have unman'd your selves, and lived below your Reason, and as beside your wits,	p. 32
The madness of them that are afraid of being Godly, lest it make them mad,	p. 34
5. You have but abused and lost all your mercies,	p. 37, 38
6. You have neglected Christ, his Grace and Spirit,	p. 40
7. Your hopes and peace are but delusions and irrational,	p. 41
Use 2. To lament the distracted course of worldlings,	p. 43
Use 3. Exhortation : What course will you take for time to come ?	p. 48
Consider 1. It is Necessity that is pleaded with you,	p. 51
2. It is but One thing that God hath made Necessary,	p. 56
3. This One thing is that Good part,	p. 59
4. This Good part is offered you, and you have your choice, Whether God or the world, heaven or earth shall be your portion,	p. 61
Qu. How is it in our choice ? have we free-will ?	p. 63
5. If you choose it, it shall never be taken from you.	p. 65
A full confutation of these ungodly ones that deny the Necessity of a holy life, p. 69. in 30 Quiries.	
Obj. It is not Godliness, but your precise Way that we call needless. The particulars of a holy life examined, p. 83. 1. Much preaching and hearing,	p. 85
2. Reading Scriptures, 3. and fervent Prayer,	p. 86
3. Diligent instructing families,	p. 88
4. The holy observation of the Lords Day justified,	p. 89
7. Strictness of life in avoiding sin,	p. 92
8. The rigour of Church-Discipline,	p. 94
Obj. It is but few that are so strict.	p. 97

## The Second Part.

CHap. 1. Holiness and its fruits are the Best part : Wherein the Happiness of Saints consisteth, p. 101. Why most men choose it not. What is set in the Balance against it,	p. 110
The excuses of refusers answered,	p. 112
( a 3 )	Chap.



## The Contents.

- Chap. 2. *What he must do in reason, that will be resolved which is the best part and way : And who shall be the judge,* p. 114
- Chap. 3. *Twenty Queries for the full conviction of all Rational men, that are willing to understand the truth, that There is a Life to come of Happiness to the Godly, and Misery to the Ungodly: With fifteen Queries for the conviction of Infidels, that the Gospel is the infallible Word of God,* p. 130
- [Those that have not read the second Part of my *Saints Rest*, and Treatise against Infidelity, and doubt of the Truth of the Scripture or the life to come, may read this third Chapter first, and so proceed to the rest of the Book.]
- Clem. Writer's *Objections answered,* p. 157
- Chap. 4. *Holiness is Best for all Societies,* p. 159
1. *It uniteth all in One head and Center,* p. 160
  2. *It hath the most uniting, excellent, powerful end of duty,* p. 161
  3. *It takes away the Ball of the worlds contention that breaketh Societies,* ibid.
  4. *It destroyeth selfishness, which is the destroying principle,* p. 162
  5. *It hath the most righteous Laws,* ibid.
  6. *It is contrary to all disturbing evil,* ibid.
  7. *It effectually disposeth the mind to duty,* p. 163
  8. *It cleanseth the very heart, and killeth secret sin.* 9. *It cementeth Societies with unfeigned Love,* ibid.
  10. *It maketh Princes and Rulers a double blessing : Manifested in five particulars,* p. 164
  11. *It maketh the most Loyal and obedient subjects. For 1. it makes them know themselves, p. 166. 2 And to see God in their Rulers. 3. And to obey and submit for conscience sake, p. 167. 4. And destroyeth self-seeking. 5. And consisteth in Charity. 6. Procureth Divine blessings. 7. And makes men meek, and patient, and forbearing. 8. Disposeth to concord. 9. Assureth of the greatest rewards of obedience. 10. And confirmeth against all temptations to disobedience,* p. 168
- Object. *Have not the greatest rebellions been caused by your godly men? as the Waldenles, Bohemians, French and others nearer us?* Answered, p. 169, 170. *specially to Papists,* p. 173, 174
12. *Godliness makes men true to their Covenants;* ibid.
  13. *It teacheth the true method of obeying,* p. 175
  14. *It maketh men of publike spirits. 15. It maketh it their business to do good. 16. It makes men love enemies, and forgive wrongs,*



## The Contents.

wrongs. 17. It interesteth Societies in the favour and protection of God,	p. 176
18. It is the surest way to all supplies. 19. It is the Honour of Societies. 20. It must be best that is so heavenly,	p. 177
Chap. 5. Times of Holiness are the Best Times, p. 178. Those that say, It never was a good world since there was so much Godliness, and so much preaching, are fully confuted by twenty Arguments. And their cavils answered.	p. 181, &c.
Chap. 6. Holiness is the only way of safety,	p. 196
Chap. 7. Holiness is the only Honest way. The dishonesty of the ungodly proved,	p. 205
Chap. 8. Holiness is the most Gainful way: proved,	p. 219
Chap. 9. Holiness is the most Honourable way, p. 232. A reproof of the reproach of Holiness in England: And full proof of the Honour of a Godly life.	ibid.
Obj. It tends to make the godly proud to tell them of their Honour.	
Ans. Many Reasons for full confutation of this Objection, p. 258	
The baseness of the ungodly,	p. 265
Chap. 10. Holiness is the most Pleasant life,	p. 269
Proved: 1. From the Nature of the thing, and 1. From the Revelations of God, and the Knowledge of Believers,	p. 270
2. From the Will and Affections, the nature and operations of Grace therein,	p. 277
3. From the quality of External holy duties,	p. 282
4. From the Objects of holy Acts,	p. 302, 303
Objections answered,	p. 307, 308
II. From the Helps and Concomitants,	p. 310
From the Effects,	p. 312
The Aggravations of the Delights of Holiness compared with the Delights of sin,	p. 314
Obj. Of the sad lives of Believers, Answered,	p. 323
Obj. Doth not God command men to fast and mourn?	p. 339
Use: Reproof to those that can find no matter of pleasure in a holy life,	p. 341
The greatness of their sin and misery,	p. 342
Directions, Shewing such graceless persons what to do, that they may come to Delight in God and Godliness,	p. 348
Use 2. Reproof to those self-troubling Christians, who live as sadly as if there were little pleasure to be found in God,	p. 353
Considerations fit to cure this sad disease,	p. 354



## The Contents.

Q <sup>y</sup> . Whether it be not Hypocritical affectation, to seem comfortable for fear of discouraging men from Religion : Fully answered,	p. 359
Obj. I could rejoyce if I knew my title to the promises,	p. 362
Obj. I have cause of sorrow,	p. 363
The considerations prosecuted,	p. 364
Twelve Directions to sad self-troubling Christians, how they may live a Joyful life, and find Delight in God and Godliness,	p. 374.

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## Errata.

**P** Ag. 277. lin. ult. for Law read Love ; p. 35 r. l. 5. for that once r. but once ;  
l. 7. r. fermentations ; l. ult. r. sweeter ; p. 358. l. 30. for unanswerable r.  
answerable ; p. 367. l. 23. r. Physicion ; l. 38. after of r. in ; p. 374. l. 17.  
for is r. are ; p. 375. l. 37. blot out when ; p. 381. l. 37. r. terrors.  
Smaller literall errors and mispointings being not many I omit.

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