

REMARKS  
ON  
THE WRITINGS  
AND  
Prophecies  
OF  
JOANNA SOUTHCOTT:  
BEING AN ATTEMPT  
TO PROVE HER ASSERTIONS INCONSISTENT WITH  
THE WILL OF GOD  
AS REVEALED IN THE  
SCRIPTURES OF ETERNAL TRUTH.

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By G. DENHAM.

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To the law and to the testimony, if they speak not according to this Word, it is because there is no light in them.

ISAIAH viii. 20.

A just God and a Saviour there is none besides me.

ISAIAH xlv. 21.

Neither is there salvation in any other; for there is none other name under heaven given among men whereby we must be saved.

ACTS. iv. 12.

The woman saith unto him, I know that Messias cometh, which is called Christ, when he is come he will tell us all things. Jesus saith unto her, I that speak unto thee am He.

JOHN iv. 25; 26.

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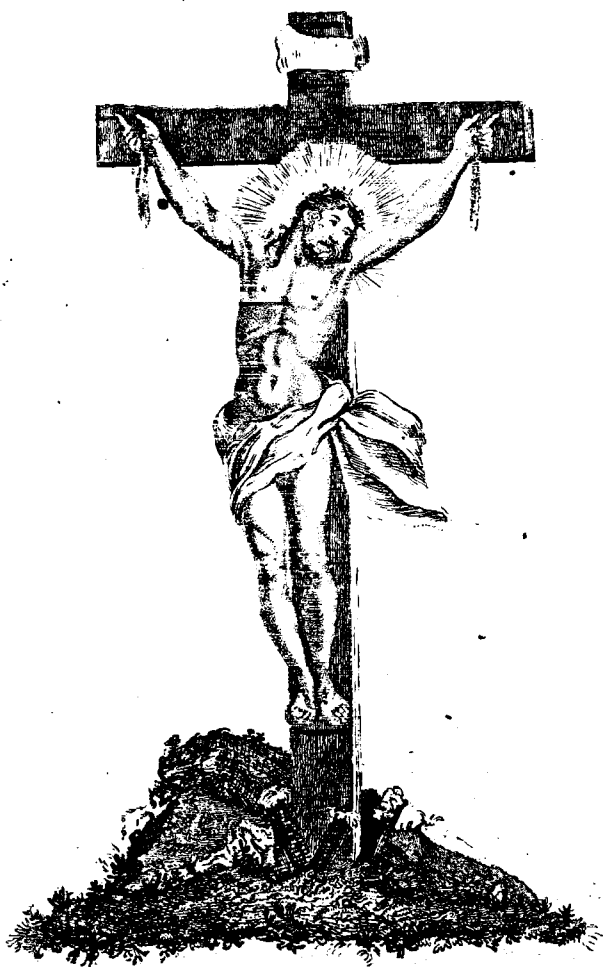
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*He died once for ALL Men.*



## **PREFACE.**



**HAVING** perused the Writings of the celebrated JOANNA SOUTHCOOT, and compared them with the scriptures of eternal truth, and being led, I trust, to see their inconsistency with the Sacred Page, I feel constrained from a love to the truth as it is in Jesus, to oppose those errors which have been propagated by her with eagerness, in order to deceive the ignorant and unwary.

It is truly lamentable to behold so many people carried away by such awful doctrine, and thus to be deluded by the devil, who too frequently, as in this case, makes his appearance as an angel of light, and hides his cloven foot under an angelic wing, with an intent to deceive the simple ones.

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A desire to set forth truth in its true light, and to make such palpable errors appear in their true colours, has been the cause of this small pamphlet making its appearance in public; hoping that those who have embraced such heretical opinions, may, upon a diligent inquiry after truth, and comparing her works and the following pages with the Word of God, be led, through the illumination of the Holy Spirit, to discover their mistake, to renounce error, and embrace the glorious gospel of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, which alone is able to make them wise unto salvation.

THE AUTHOR.

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## REMARKS, &c.

Scripture, as well as natural history, abounds with proofs that many false prophets and prophets have arisen and drawn away many deluded followers after them, until both leaders and followers have fallen into the pit of perdition. Amongst those I shall name, is one Martinus, who blasphemously said, that he was the paraclete; or, in other words, the Holy Spirit; and that he preferred the writings of his two prophetesses, before and above the sacred Scriptures. Horrid infatuation of the devil! But I should suppose, as he asserted such detestable and damnable errors as these, he showed to his followers, at least, a deportment free from gross immorality, in order to make them swallow his deadly poison. History also relates the account of a Roman Catholic another deluded person, who in the early part of his life was very profligate; but after some time he became more moral in his external conduct, and was considered a very pious man; and by this deception, like Simon Magus, spoken of in the 8th of Acts, was looked upon as something more than human, and at length declared that he was Christ; and many spiritually blind souls were carried away with this false christ; and two false prophets arose also at the same time with him; and at length the stir was so great, that this false christ and the two false prophets were taken into custody, and the false christ was sentenced to death, suitably to the blasphemous nature of his offence. But to such a degree was his mind infatuated, that he declared with his dying breath, he was Christ; the two false prophets were also sentenced to be imprisoned for life; one of them put an end to his

life by starving himself in prison; and the other lived to see his error, and recanted.

But as the chief design of this work is to oppose the heresies and false doctrines of *Joanna Southcott*, the Exeter prophetess, I now come more immediately to speak of her and her works, hoping, in some measure, to expose the absurdity of her principles, and to prove that both herself and followers are a company of poor deluded people, and that unless the Lord is pleased to extend his mercy to them in a wonderful manner, where he is they can never come. Our prophetess was baptized at St. Mary Ottery; into what faith I know not, unless it is that of devils; for though I know her not personally, yet I am acquainted with some people who can prove that she is a lying prophetess, for she prophesied the death of four men, who were all of them to die in one year; and that was at least twelve or thirteen years ago; but to this present time they are living; and one of them was to have his life spared longer than the rest because he carried a letter to a person to whom *Joanna* sent it; and in consequence of his obeying the voice of the Lord in carrying the letter, he was reprieved until a future period. Those four men I know personally, and have conversed with them in times past. Now what are we to think of this first instance of her prophetic language, if this is not prophesying lies in the name of the Lord, I know not what is; and it is impossible this should come from the Holy Spirit, because he is a Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive. This is one proof of her prophecies being false, which none of her deluded followers can deny; but like the lying Spirit which actuated Ahab's four hundred prophets in order to accomplish his downfall, who came with a 'Thus saith the Lord' in their mouths, when the Lord had not taught or sent them to speak in his name, so our Exeter prophetess seems to have prophesied.

Another instance of her lying spirit is this: that Buonaparte was to invade England and go through the land, and all that believed in her as the sent of God, and had one of her seals, would be protected: this her followers cannot deny: I ask when his prophecy was accomplished? Neither herself nor followers can specify the time. From the above, I conclude that she is deceived by a

lying spirit, whom she says is the Spirit of God ; for in all probability Buonaparte's power to execute any such plan is quite overthrown by the over-ruling power and providence of the eternal Jehovah, who worketh all things after the counsel of his own will ; whose purposes with respect to that man as a scourge to Europe seem to be entirely accomplished,

A third instance of her blind infatuation is to be found in her saying she was ordered by the Lord to seal the elect, and that they must believe in her as the Bride, the Lamb's wife ; that she is the woman, the identical woman spoken of in the Revelations, chap. xii : that she is the sent of God to open the mysteries of the gospel, and that they must sign their names for the destruction of Satan's kingdom, and for the coming of Christ to reign a thousand years on the earth ; and those who sign their names, and have the seal, it will entitle them, and them only, to reign with Christ in his kingdom : and some of her blind followers assert, that it is not sufficient for our salvation to believe in Christ unless we believe in *Joanna*, and have one of her seals ; for while the sealed are reigning with Christ on earth for a thousand years, all others, believers in Christ, or unbelievers in him, who have not a seal from her, will go to hell for a thousand years. Precious doctrine indeed!! but such as will never be embraced by the true believer in our Lord Jesus Christ, who not only knows the doctrines of the gospel in his head, but feels their sweet and divine influence on his heart.

A person who purchased one of her seals, being anxious to find out the wonderful mystery therein contained, opened it, in direct opposition to the commands of this West Country Prophetess, who pronounces damnation on all such as dare to violate her holy injunctions. But some have been so bold as to break her seals, and discovering the cheat, have thus been delivered out of the snare of the devil. Some of these seals are nothing more than a mere blank piece of paper, others have a few words written therein : but as this spirit does not appear to have any uniform mode of proceeding, I feel inclined to indulge the idea that it is not a spirit of wisdom ; but a spirit very similar to that in the days of our Lord, who took possession of a herd of swine. I was once favoured



with a sight of one of these title-deeds to heaven, which had this inscription on it,

Elect, Precious! Man's redemption. To inherit the Tree of Life, to be made heirs of God, and joint heirs with Jesus Christ.

JOANNA SOUTHCOFF.

This is an exact copy of the seal which I saw; and it is very evident that the receiving of her paper seals is nothing but a mere cheat, and given with a design to delude her followers; but unless they can produce a better evidence than this, they will never be admitted into the kingdom of God; could they even produce fifty thousand such seals as the one I have copied.

I am surprised to find she uses the word *Elect*, in her seals, because she not only says that more is discovered and made known to her than there ever was to the prophets and apostles of old, but manifestly an enemy to the divine sovereignty of God as overruled, and detests the doctrine of election as revealed in the word of eternal truth; (and many of her followers, to my knowledge, have said "Election is a damnable doctrine") and yet, as I before said, makes use of the word in her seals; but this is done in order to deceive the purchasers of this jewel, this paper seal; who, on receiving it, believe they are entitled to the favour and protection of God, and are sure to go to heaven when they die; hence they look upon themselves as the only people who will be happy in time and eternity, and that this happiness commences upon their receiving the seal; and some of them have declared that they never felt such joy in their lives as they have done since they believed in *Joanna*, and were sealed by her, not knowing the contents of the seal, nor daring to examine it. From this time they are quite happy and comfortable, and go on through life unmolested by the enemy of souls, who is forlorn, as *Joanna* says, to tempt them, upon the pain of a greater punishment being inflicted upon him. So these poor deluded mortals feel no changes, but are all peace and serenity within. An evident proof that the strong man armed keeps his goods in peace, and that they fear not God.

The characters who are led to embrace this erroneous system are such as the word of God represents to be in darkness and gross ignorance; for the embracing it does not even so much as moralize them; and many of those who have espoused her cause, and are amongst the most warm advocates for her diabolical doctrine, are characters that are a disgrace to the truly enlightened part of mankind; for while many of them have put their handwriting to the destruction of Satan's empire, and the establishing Christ's kingdom in the world; they live in gross immorality, such as cursing, swearing, and drunkenness, and yet trust to *Joanna's* seal for salvation. I would ask, Are such ignorant, unenlightened, unsanctified cursers, swearers, and drunkards, fit subjects to dwell and reign with the King of kings, and Lord of lords, when he shall reign in his spiritual kingdom on earth?

Again, as some clergymen in the church of England have espoused this new-fangled doctrine, and are propagating it in order to shew their obedience to the Lord, I would enquire, Whether they are dissenters or real churchmen? *Joanna's* followers inform us they are churchmen, and that all her advocates are ordered to go to church, because some churchmen come nearest to her doctrine, and all of them will ere long. As to the meetings, and especially those of the calvinistic persuasion, they will all fall to the ground; for *Joanna*, in her 3d book of Wonders, p. 56, poetry, declares that neither Calvinists or Arminians are right, nor will they be suffered to rest in glory. This, she would have mankind to believe, is the very voice of Christ himself. But with respect to those gentlemen in the establishment, who embrace her principles, I conceive they are not churchmen in reality, but dissenters, not from the walls and order of the church, but from the pure calvinistic doctrines contained in her articles; though at the same time they swear to maintain those very articles which are founded on the scriptures of eternal truth: but after all are filled with enmity against the truth contained in those very articles, and cry them down both from the pulpit and press. Such is the awful blindness of those who are enlisted under the banner of *Joanna*, in order to propagate her diabolical doctrines to the deceiving of many who follow her pernicious ways, whereby the way of

truth is evil spoken of. But it is impossible that those who propagate her sentiments with such false fiery zeal, can be either sent or taught of God to deceive the ignorant in the way and manner in which they do. Did such pretended teachers know by experience what they are in themselves, and were made acquainted with Christ and the power of his resurrection, they would not be carried away by such delusions as *Joanna* has asserted for facts. Neither can any of the elect of God who are called according to his purpose, sit with any satisfaction under such teachers, unless they are very weak in understanding, and faith likewise: though it may be possible for some, who are chosen of God from eternity, to be carried away for a season with such poisonous doctrine as hers is; yet they will not be suffered to die in the belief thereof; for Christ told his disciples, that if they drank any deadly thing it should not hurt them; therefore such will be given to see their error in embracing those things that are dishonourable to God and their profession, and will be led by his Holy Spirit to bless and praise his adorable name for his discriminating mercy towards them in bringing them back from their wanderings, while multitudes are left to continue under the delusions of the devil. St. Paul says in his 2d Epistle to the Thessalonians, 2d chapter and 11 and 12 verses, *And for this cause God shall send them strong delusions that they should believe a lie, that they all might be damned who believed not the truth, but had pleasure in unrighteousness.* It is therefore plain and evident that many who have with eagerness embraced this new system, are so ignorant of the first principles of real heart-felt religion, that they have scarce the form of it, much less the power: and if any thing is said to them concerning the experience of one born of God, and close conversation is entered into with them on spiritual and divine things, it is easy to discover that all their knowledge centers in their heads, that they are full of they know not what, and are so confident of being right, that they do not admit of a single doubt to the contrary. An awful delusion indeed, for blind leaders, blind people, and a lying prophethood to be under; and it will be well for them all if they do not sink into the bottomless pit together.

Again, *Joanna* informs us, in one of her books, she

met the devil some time ago, and entered into conversation with him, and in the course of conversation, advised him to implore the divine protection before it is too late: this she cannot deny. I would ask her this question, Do you really believe there is a possibility of salvation for the devil? If so, why do you say in another book, that Satan is to bear all our sins? If you do not believe in his salvation, why do you act the hypocrite in desiring him to implore the divine protection before it be too late? Reconcile these two extremes if you can. You likewise exhorted the king of the bottomless pit to repent. You say he answered, Do you think I would be such a fool as to repent, even if I could? By this it appears that the devil knew more than *Joanna* did; he knew he could not repent; he knew he was not redeemed; for Christ took not on him the nature of angels, but the seed of Abraham. If *Joanna* had been taught by God the Spirit, she would have known that Christ is exalted a Prince and a Saviour to give repentance to Israel and the remission of sins to his chosen, who are loved with an everlasting love, and with loving kindness are drawn to him: and all the chosen ones will find, sooner or later, that Christ, and he alone, is exalted to give this blessing to them as the effect of his eternal love towards them. But no such blessing is reserved for the devil or any of the fallen angels.

On the first page of sound an alarm in my holy mountain, dated January 30th, 1804, *Joanna* says, "It would be more fatal for me and all mankind than the fall of Eve was, if I did not obey." Who, I ask, would receive such doctrine as this is, except they were spiritually blind indeed: for it points out to us, that the eternal purposes of God depend on the obedience of a poor fallible mortal, and that the whole plan of man's redemption depends upon a woman who has the impudence to pretend to possess greater wisdom than all the prophets and apostles, who were in reality inspired by the Holy Ghost to write the Old and New Testaments; which sacred books she pretends to illustrate, and says, every other explanation, especially by Calvinists, is wrong. A glorious salvation indeed to depend on, which rests on so fickle a foundation as this. But thanks be to the eternal Jehovah, Father, Son, and Spirit, that his eternal decrees and purposes of love and grace do not depend upon so insecure a foundation as this free will doctrine des-

cries. While such spiritual fools as *Joanna*, her clergy, and people, pretend to exalt the Lord Jesus Christ, they degrade him, and his great salvation, to the lowest degree; and those who through grace are enabled by the Holy Spirit to confide in him for a full, free, and complete salvation, without money and without price, as the free gift of God; such, not believing in *Joanna* as possessed of superior wisdom to the prophets and apostles of our Lord, and not having been sealed by her, are said to be *in the gall of bitterness, and in the bonds of iniquity*: and while Christ reigns on earth, they, as well as the world of ungodly sinners, will go to hell for a thousand years; and when that thousand years are expired, all will be let out again, and will at last all be saved.

According to this doctrine, there is no difference between those who can prove from sweet and happy experience their new and spiritual birth, *being born again not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God which liveth and abideth for ever*, 1 Pet. i. 23, and the finally impenitent; unless they believe that *Joanna* is sent to seal the people to the day of redemption, and are actually sealed by her; for this punishment such must undergo, however the Lord may have made a difference between them and the ungodly sinner by the power of his discriminating grace, to hell they must go, because they do not believe in *Joanna Southcott*, and cannot produce a paper seal! But my God and Saviour tells me and all his chosen people in his sacred word, *Whosoever believeth in me hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation, but is passed from death unto life*. This *Joanna*, and her blind followers, deny and say, unless we believe in and are sealed by *Joanna*, there is no salvation for us. However I beg leave to be ranked amongst those whom she and her deluded brethren are pleased to term unbelievers, and to take the consequence. But I defy *Joanna* or any of her priests to curse any soul whom God has blessed with the knowledge of salvation by the remission of their sins, through the atoning blood of Jesus Christ, the one mediator between God and man, who was set up from everlasting as the representative and alone surety of all his people; who, as the great apostle of the Gentiles informs us in his first chapter to the Ephesians and fourth verse, *are chosen in him, (in Christ) from before the foundation of the world*.

I know that the doctrine the apostle Paul preached, and was led by the Holy Spirit to write, is very disgusting to *Joanna* and her followers; and that those who are led to embrace and earnestly contend for the doctrines contained in Paul's Epistles are said to know nothing at all by those who make *Joanna's* books the rule of their faith; and who tell us, that more is revealed to her, than is revealed to the prophets and apostles in the Old and New Testament: but let us now try the spirits, according to the apostle John's direction in his first Epistle, and 4th chapter, *Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God, because many false prophets are gone out into the world.* Now, how shall we know the false spirit from the spirit of truth, but by tracing their different operations, and proving that each spirit produceth its own effects. We will first begin with that spirit which causeth *Joanna's* followers to believe in her pretended mission; this spirit brings almost immediately on believing in *Joanna*, and receiving her paper seal, such extacy of joy and consolation in the mind, as the receiver thereof never found before; whilst, at the same time, they are addicted to make use of the most profane language and intemperance, such as cursing, swearing, drunkenness, &c. and also begets that strong and unscriptural confidence in the person thus sealed, which produces a false peace, that they immediately conclude they are right, and in a fair way for the kingdom of heaven. Hence they imagine the Prince of Darkness is never more to molest or disquiet them by any temptation, upon pain of receiving a greater punishment, as has already been hinted at: neither, indeed, has he any occasion so to do, because he has already the possession of the castle, (or heart) as his chief residence; for a stronger than himself is not yet entered, to bind the strong man, cast him out, and take his dwelling: for was this the case with them, they would be delivered from this refuse of lies, and would be glad to run to a Rock for shelter instead of a piece of paper, which will not screen them from the storm that will one day overtake them; and living and dying in this state it is to be feared that such will never be inhabitants of the New Jerusalem church above: neither can they, in reality, desire to enter into the heavenly kingdom, while they continue strangers to the regenerating influence of the Holy Spirit, whose work and divine operation I shall

now attempt to describe, and hope to show, by the touchstone of eternal truth, the difference between the spirit of truth, and the spirit of error. But before I proceed, I would, for a moment, take notice of *Joanna's* explanation of the 3d chapter of John, 3d verse to the 7th, in her Third Book of Wonders, page 13, which is as follows; viz. "Had my sayings been understood that a second child should be born of my spirit, then imposters would have arisen; neither could I have asked Nicodemus how he, being a master of Israel, knew not these things. He could have no knowledge from my gospel. I spoke concerning the prophets, that he might understand how I came first to die for man; but to fulfil them in the end. It is in spirit that the spiritual child must be born again. These things stand on record, but not understood by men." Is this the genuine meaning of this precious part of God's word, in which thousands, and probably millions, of the elect vessels of mercy have been enabled to rejoice in their fulfilment? Certainly not. But to return to my subject, and in order to explain the aforementioned passage, agreeably to the Old and New Testaments, and the experience of every believer in the Lord Jesus Christ, I shall, as I before said, attempt to describe the operation of the Holy Spirit upon the heart of an elect sinner, in order to make him meet for the inheritance of the saints in light.

This blessed Spirit is a Spirit of Truth, and not of error, and as he was promised to lead the people of God into all truth, and to deliver them from every false way; so when he undertakes to teach and instruct the sinner who is the object of eternal love, he always does it consistently with that word which was written by holy men of old as they were moved by the Holy Ghost. And in order to produce a new and spiritual birth in the soul, he first gives life to feel their wretchedness and misery by nature, and light to see themselves as naturally dead, dumb, blind, deaf, and naked; and not only so, but that they are insensible thereof, until this divine Agent breathes into them the breath of life; and then instead of a delusive joy and consolation at first (as is produced by the spirit of error) the soul is awakened to feel and see its lost state by nature and practice, that he has broken the law of God, and that he stands condemned by it; and without an interest in the Lord Jesus

Christ (not in *Joanna* and her paper seals) he must perish for ever. Hence he experimentally feels his spiritual wants and necessities, and is led by the Holy Spirit, who implanted the cry in his heart, to sue for mercy feelingly, not formally and with the lips only ; and that God who hears and answers prayer, is pleased in his own time, way, and manner, to remove the guilt of sin from his conscience ; and instead of those doubts, fears, and awful apprehensions, which arise from a spirit of bondage, that peace which passeth all understanding, and a divine tranquility, is enjoyed in the soul. As the cause of this experience is the eternal love of God ; so the effects which are produced give an evident testimony that God the Spirit is the divine agent : for he first makes the sinner cry out as Paul, the jailor, or the publican did, with a What must I do to be saved ? which arises from a sense of sin : and afterwards those painful sensations are taken away by the same almighty power, and a sweet sense of the love of God is shed abroad in the heart by the Holy Ghost, which begets deep humility and gratitude of heart ; and enables the soul, thus born again, to say with David, What shall I render unto the Lord for all his benefits bestowed upon me. All this is known experimentally by the soul that is brought by the Spirit of Truth to realize that precious portion of scripture which Joanna has so awfully perverted to her own base and deceiving purposes, by endeavouring to make her deluded followers view it in the light that she puts upon it ; which is nothing but darkness itself, when contrasted with the true import of the passage which was spoken by the Redeemer of elect sinners to Nicodemus : and he being one of that happy number, was brought by the teaching of the Holy Spirit, to know and enjoy his own personal interest in the sweet doctrine which those words contain. He well knew, after that his understanding was enlightened, his will was renewed, and his affections were spiritualized, the fulfilment of numbers of Old Testament passages, being realized in his own experience ; the beauty of which could never be seen by the faith of God's elect, or any sweetness drawn therefrom, by reason of the spiritual darkness that pervaded their minds, and the mind of all mankind, whilst in an unrenewed state.

It appears to me from what I have thus far said re-



specting *Joanna* and her doctrine, that she is a stranger to the new and spiritual birth, mentioned by our Lord to Nicodemus; and though she may pretend to a spirit of prophesy, and seal hundreds of her deluded disciples with her signature, and by so doing grant them a passport to the heavenly kingdom; yet I would have her recollect, that if she and her followers die ignorant of this important change, damnation will be the lot of her and them. Although she stiles her adherents, 'Believers,' yet the word of the living God is positively against all such as are not born again by this incorruptible seed; and it is as impossible that they can have any knowledge of, or relish for spiritual things in a spiritual manner, as that a man literally dead, can enjoy the good things of this life. Many of her believers have set their names to the destruction of Satan's kingdom, while in heart and life they deny that ever any such desire was given them; and this is a fact which none who knows them will ever deny; for many of them are as ignorant of the true gospel of the ever blessed Redeemer as an unenlightened hottentot.

These things I lay before the public, that they may see whether her explanation of the aforesaid passages will harmonize or agree with other passages in the old and New Testaments which might very easily be quoted; but as I do not intend to swell this pamphlet to a size which it might be difficult for the poorer class in society to purchase, I shall forbear to particularize them; but at the same time intreat my readers to examine the Word of God for themselves, as it abounds with proof upon proof of the truth of the doctrine I contend for; but there is not one word from the beginning of Genesis to the end of the Revelations, that informs us that Jesus Christ is to have a son, which son, we are told, *Joanna* is to bring into the world by the power of the Most High, and who, she declares, is to be the comforter, and is to abide with us forever, according to Christ's own promise; and in order to make us believe what she has written, has quoted the words of our blessed Lord himself, in the 16th chapter of John's gospel, the 7th and 8th verses, *Nevertheless, I tell you the truth, it is expedient for you that I go away, for if I go not away, the Comforter will not come unto you; but if I depart I will send him unto you; and when he is come he will re-*

*prove the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment.* This passage she would have Jew and Gentile to believe has an immediate reference, and actually applies to this child she is now pregnant with, and which she is shortly to bring into the world; and whom she, in her Third Book of Wonders, page 21, calls the Prince of Peace: in page 22, the Saviour of the Jews; and in page 25, the Restorer of them to their own land. In page 26, she tells us, that Christ spake concerning the Son that should be revealed at his second coming, and in page 27, that if the words of Christ had been understood, which he spake to Nicodemus, it would have been clearly understood that there would be a second Son, like the first.

From the preceding lines it is plain, that *Joanna* has most awfully perverted this precious portion of God's most holy word, for throughout the whole of the sacred Writings there is not the most distant idea given that the Third Person in the adorable Trinity, called the "Comforter," is any where said to be born of a woman. What! a pure spirit to become, according to her gross conceptions, flesh and blood; and to be called the Prince of Peace, and the Saviour of the Jews!! Awful blasphemy indeed.

Before I proceed any further, I would ask *Joanna*, or any of her followers, this question: Did the Jews do right to reject the Lord Jesus Christ as their Prophet, Priest, King, Prince, and Saviour; or, was it wrong in them when Christ told them, *You will not come to me, that ye might have life*, to refuse to come to him for life and salvation? Is there two Saviours provided, one for the Jews, and another for the Gentiles? If she and they answer as her works declare, they must say there is, for it is manifest she has attempted to prove it in them: but if her works are true, the Bible is false; because those absurdities and falsehoods would follow, which prove that her books and the sacred Scriptures by no means harmonize and agree; and this I shall endeavour to prove to every unprejudiced mind.

She tells us that her son, which is shortly to be born, is actually the Shiloh, or Messiah of the Jews. We will, for a few moments, for the sake of making every

thing appear in its proper light, suppose it to be true as she has declared: but the consequence which follows such an erroneous idea is, that those who rejected the true Messiah when he made his appearance upon this earth were right in so doing, which will appear from the following remark. When Jesus told the Jews they would not come to him that they might have life, it would have been wisdom in them to reject him, and to have told him, you have promised us life in our coming to you, but how can you give us the life you speak of, when you are not our Shiloh or Messiah? Our Shiloh which we look for, is to be born of *Joanna Southcott*, who will be a native of England, but her birth will not take place until near eighteen hundred years have revolved round; therefore we shall despise and reject you as an imposter.

Again, if her books are right, Old Simeon was wrong when he took our Saviour in his arms and embraced him, and said, *Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace, according to thy word, for mine eyes have seen thy salvation, which thou hast prepared before the face of all people; a light to to lighten the Gentiles, and to be the glory of thy people Israel.* Observe, he was to be the glory of Israel, but what a mistaken man must good old Simeon be, to embrace our Saviour as the true Messiah, when the Shiloh promised, was to be born of our wonderful prophetess, *Joanna Southcott*.

Again, when John sent two of his disciples to Jesus to enquire of him whether it was he that should come, or whether they were to look for another; Jesus answered, and said unto them, *Go, and shew John these things which you do hear and see, The blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised up, and the poor have the gospel preached unto them,* Matthew, chap. xi. 3, 4, and 5th verses. Further, when John's disciples asked this question, Whether it was he or another they were to look for, Christ immediately referred them to the miracles that he wrought in their presence, as a full proof that he himself was the only true Shiloh that was to come; for if there had been another to have arisen, Christ would have told them, that the true Shiloh would be born into the world by *Joanna Southcott*, the Exeter prophetess, in the year

1814; and then whoever had pretended to have arisen as the true Shiloh, would have been found to be liars indeed.

Again, in the conference which our blessed Lord had with the woman of Samaria, when her conscience began to feel the force of his divine power, she said, *I know that when Messiah cometh, which is called Christ, he will tell us all things.* Now mark the answer from the lips of eternal truth, *I that speak unto thee am He.* But, according to *Joanna's* system, which she tells us is from the Spirit of the living God, there are two Shilohs or Messiahs; one for the Jews, and another for the Gentiles: and those who embrace her doctrine, and are sealed with her seal, are, as she says, protected by the Lord; but if they break them they loose the Lord's protection.

Again, on the day of Pentecost, when our Lord's disciples were met together, waiting for the promised Comforter, the Holy Spirit, when they felt his divine, quickening, and comforting influence on their hearts, Peter's mouth and heart was opened to speak of the Saviour of the Gentiles; but the audience that Peter addressed at that time were professing Jews from all parts of the known world; and that blessed gospel which Peter was enabled by the power of the Holy Spirit to preach, was blest at that time to no less than three thousand souls. Now, if *Joanna's* writings are dictated by the Spirit of God, and that the true Shiloh is not come into the world before she brings forth the Comforter, the Prince of Peace, and the Saviour of the Jews, whom she says she is pregnant with, how can the writings of the Old and New Testament be correct? For if her works her true, as she and her followers declare, (which I beg leave to deny,) then Peter and all the rest of the apostles who preached salvation and remission of sins to the Jews, by and through the Saviour of elect sinners, led them all into a delusion, by causing them to embrace a Saviour that was never designed for any of them. Peter ought, according to her ideas, to have directed them to the Shiloh that *Joanna* was to be the mother of, and not to Jesus of Nazareth; but Peter tells us, (and I am sure he knew what he said to be true, because he spake as he was actuated by the Holy Spirit) Acts iv. 12.

*Neither is there salvation in any other; for there is no other name under heaven given among men whereby we must be saved.* If Joanna considers that little, but significant pronoun *we*, in the foregoing passage I have quoted from the Acts, which includes Jews and Gentiles, and if there is no other name under heaven given among men, but that of the Lord Jesus Christ, as Peter under divine inspiration tells us, to obtain life and salvation by, I hope she will discover that it will be in vain for the Jews to look to that Shiloh and Prince of Peace which is to be born and suckled by her.

The apostle Paul, in his writings to the church at Ephesus, tells the believing Ephesians in the second chapter and 14 verse, that Christ is their "peace:" *For he is our peace who hath made both one, and hath broken down the middle wall of partition between us;* that is, believing Jews and believing Gentiles are made by the power of divine grace, one spirit in the Lord; and sure I am they will unite together in owning salvation by one Shiloh, *who hath loved them, and washed them from their sins in his own blood.* It will not be the Messiah of the Gentiles begetting the Jews' Messiah, and each party praising a different Saviour; no! no! there is no such inconsistent work among the true worshippers of the only living and true God.

Joanna appears in her writings to be erecting a thick wall of partition again, which Paul tells us is broken down, and therefore all her daubing is with untempered mortar, and will ever appear so in the eyes of all genuine believers in the Three-One Jehovah, whom she in her writings thinks to honour, though in reality degrades in a monstrous and blasphemous manner indeed; which makes me bold to tell her, in plain language, that her works are a jumble of inconsistent phrases altogether, as ever were wrote by mortal man, and are fit for nothing but to be burnt in a public market; and I am persuaded all firm believers in the Scriptures of eternal truth will acknowledge the same. She perhaps will say, that her followers believe in the Bible, or else they would not be so ready to believe in her writings, which give the real meaning and true explanation thereof. This I very much doubt; for I firmly believe that *he* *self*, and most

of her deluded followers, know not what it is to be a Bible christian; because their hearts are so full of enmity against the sovereignty of the eternal Jehovah in the choice of his people, in electing them to eternal life in Christ Jesus, from before the foundation of the world. This doctrine of eternal election was preached by our Lord Jesus Christ himself, as well as by his apostles; and therefore she and her followers may, if they please, despise it and say, that the doctrine of predestination and election came from the devil, and at the same time call themselves believers in the Bible; but it only manifests their enmity of heart against the deep truths so clearly revealed in the word of eternal truth, and the darkness of their understandings in the sacred science of christianity.

It is the peculiar privilege of the elect of God to be truly taught by the Holy Spirit, and to be led to embrace the whole of the gospel in its sacred connexion and harmony. Thus possessing a knowledge of the truth in their understandings, and feeling its quickening influence on their hearts, they are preserved from embracing such detestable errors as are now broached in the world by those who call themselves the sealed of the Lord, and the elect, (when, at the same time, they know not God by regenerating grace) making the ignorant believe, because they have her seal, called "The seal of the Lord," that they are thereby elected to eternal life; when they are as destitute of any meetness for the enjoyment and employment of the celestial world, and unfit to hold communion with Father, Son, and Spirit, as the Prince of Darkness himself. Nevertheless *Joanna* styles them, Believers! to inherit the tree of life, though capable, by breaking her seal, to make their election to eternal life null and void: so that if all the sealed of the Lord, so called, were to break their seals, Christ would be a king without having any subjects in his kingdom, either to rule in or reign over.

Now supposing for a few moments that some of the sealed, and some amongst them whose names I know, should be taken out of the world whilst they continue to curse and swear in this awful manner they do, can their belief in her mission being of God, and having a paper seal, be any evidence that they are the sealed of the

Lord, that they are the elect; and that they are to inherit the tree of life? It cannot be; for if they were admitted into the heavenly Canaan, what would they do there? Would their saying that they had signed their names for the destruction of Satan's kingdom, and that they believed in *Joanna* the prophetess, and had one of her seals, be sufficient to introduce them into the full enjoyment of the King of kings, and Lord of lords, to dwell forever in his blissful presence, where is fulness of joy, and at whose right-hand are pleasures for evermore? Certainly not; they are not qualified for such high enjoyments. Neither would this belief and sealing qualify them for joining in the song of the redeemed, *Unto him that hath loved us, and washed us from our sins in his own blood, and hath made us kings and priests unto God and his Father, to him be glory and dominion for ever and ever.* They cannot sing this divine song experimentally now; much more in the kingdom of glory above; for were they made sensible, through the teaching of God the Spirit, of their native filth and practical impurity, they would not attempt to blind the minds of silly mortals by granting them this infamous passport to glory; neither would the incredulous be so easily duped, by placing a dependance on such a broken reed as *Joanna's* seals will, in the end, prove to be; for the Spirit of truth always leads the subject of his operations to see the need of the application of the blood of sprinkling to their guilty consciences. So when God is pleased by his efficacious grace to convince of sin, no paper seal from *Joanna* will bring peace and tranquillity to the soul; and such refuges of lies will then fail. Were the sealer and the sealed to experience a powerful conviction of the moral perfections of God as displayed in his holy, just, and good law, then the sealer would renounce the hidden things of dishonesty, and the sealed would no longer be caught by craftiness and guile.

The apostle Paul makes mention in his epistle to the Ephesians, 1 chap. 13 and 14 verses, That the Ephesians, *After they believed were sealed* (not with *Joanna's* seal, but) *with that holy Spirit of promise, which is the earnest of our inheritance, until the redemption of the purchased possession;* which sealing most of *Joanna's* followers appear to be ignorant of; because many them know not the first principles of true religion

in their hearts; as is very evident by their being so easily deluded into the snare of the devil.

I am compelled to believe that the apostle Paul did not believe either in *Joanna's* mission or doctrine, being persuaded such diabolical trumpery never found place in the heart of that blessed man of God, nor in the hearts of the believers in Christ who were found living in the idolatrous city of Ephesus. Paul never told them to believe in *Joanna*, or her child, but in the Lord Jesus Christ, and they should be saved. He never mentioned a single word about *Joanna's* seal, but he told them of the Spirit of promise by whom they were sealed unto the day of redemption. And, blessed be God, it is under the anointing, teaching, and sealing of this Spirit of the living God, that true believers joy in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom they have received the atonement. This sealing also produces that peace and tranquility, which Paul says, *passeth all understanding*, and which every real believer in the Lord Jesus Christ is brought experimentally to know in this world. Should any of her followers be happily favoured with the light, teaching, and quickening power of the Holy Spirit, and especially his sealing and comforting influence realized in their experience, and they be led by him into a knowledge of the deep things of God as they are revealed in his glorious gospel; then farewell to her papers, the seal of which will be no longer trusted unto: but blessing and praises will be ascribed to that God by whose eternal love and almighty power they have been delivered from the snare of the devil; under whose satanic influence they have been kept in bondage, and who has so blinded their eyes as to palm upon them tinsel for pure gold. They will not then fear hell and damnation as their lot, in consequence of breaking her seals, neither will they lose the protection of God thereby, as she has endeavoured to make them believe by her gross absurdities; for when the love of Christ is shed abroad in the heart, it banishes every fear, except a filial one; and this fear, which is through the operation of the Spirit of God, rules and reigns in the heart. Hence the apostle Paul declares, *It is faith that worketh by love*, because it flows from the act of believing (not in *Joanna*, but) in the Lord Jesus Christ.



From what I have written I shall not be surprised to find ere long my doom fixed by her, her followers, and the Spirit that dictates her works; I expect the irrevocable sentence will be the damnation of my soul and body, and a separation from the blissful presence of the Triune Jehovah. But as it is an indifferent matter to me what her spirit may dictate to her, I shall be in no wise terrified; knowing what I have written to be the truth; and had I time to go regularly through the whole of her inconsistent jargon, I might bring many more of her absurdities to light, and should not shrink from a contest with her or her brethren.

Having proved her to be an universalist, and an advocate for election, (in her sense of the word) I would, before I conclude, ask her, if she does not also believe in the doctrine of transmigration of souls? She certainly does, though perhaps she does not know it, or she would never cause to be printed such gross absurdities as are to be found in her works by every attentive reader. What I allude to is this: in one of her books she says, "that the Reverend Mr. Bruce, who was one of the men that was to examine her books, is the man-child spoken of in the Revelations, that was to rule all nations with a rod of iron, but before her works were examined by him, he was no more in time, but was caught up to God and to his throne, and that it was six days and nights before he arrived; so that nothing could be done in heaven before Bruce's arrival." In her third Book of Wonders, page 32 and 33, she says, "It is not the woman makes the nations shake that is with child, travailing in birth, and pained to be delivered, but it is the child, when he is born. Then the nations will begin to shake, and then they will know if thou art the woman mentioned in the Revelations to bring the man-child into the world." "This child," she informs us, "was caught up to God and his throne, on account of the dragon which stood before her" (which must imply that it is herself as she is to be the mother of this man-child) "in order to devour it as soon as it was born." She likewise tells us, that "it hath a meaning which men do not understand, but this she shall leave to try their wisdom, and it will be explained further when she sees the wisdom of men." I suppose she had forgot that she had

already told us that Bruce was the man-child that was caught up to God, and to his throne. But surely she cannot be pregnant with Mr. Bruce? If so, he must have descended from the heavenly regions and entered into her womb; as in the first instance she tells us Mr. Bruce is the man-child spoken of in the Revelations; and secondly, that is the child she is pregnant with, who, when he is born, is to shake the nations, and is to make his appearance a second time in the world: so that she must be a believer in transmigration, unless she can prove that there are two men children spoken of in the Revelations.

After all that has been said, how necessary it is to pay attention to the standard of truth, and how applicable is the exhortation of Paul to the church at Thessalonica, *Prove all things, hold fast that which is good.* For having perused her almost numberless absurdities, I am constrained to follow the apostle Peter's direction to the elect Jews, who were enabled to believe on the Lord Jesus Christ as the one only Saviour provided for every elect vessel of mercy by God the Father from eternity, who was manifested in the flesh to destroy the works of the devil; who brought in everlasting righteousness, which is unto and upon all them that believe, whether Jew or Gentile; and whom the Holy Spirit testifies of in his person, obedience, sufferings, and death, to the hearts of his redeemed ones, as their only Saviour and Redeemer. Wherefore Peter well informs us, *We have also a more sure word of prophecy, whereunto we do well to take heed as unto a light that shineth in a dark place, until the day dawn, and the day-star arises in our hearts,* 2 Pet. i. 19. It is on the scriptures of eternal truth that I desire to rest; and every other book, be the author or authoress who they may, I hope ever to reject, unless they fully accord with the Word of God. I ever wish to contend earnestly, according to the ability God has given me, for the faith once delivered to the saints; which faith is the gift of God, works by love, purifies the heart, deadens the affections to the world, and makes the soul, which is the partaker thereof, heavenly and spiritually-minded. Those, and those alone, are they who long ardently at times to depart and to be with Christ, which is far better. Such know what it is to be favoured with that favour God beareth unto his chosen people.

Such have free access to the mercy seat, through the blood of the everlasting covenant; and are given experimentally to enjoy communion with the Father of mercies and God of all consolation, through the Lord Jesus Christ, the one Mediator between God and man; and this is given them freely to enjoy without money and without price; for *the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.* But as to Jesus Christ and his Son, I know nothing of any such blasphemous doctrine! It is sufficient for me to be informed by the lip of truth, *that whosoever believeth on the Lord Jesus Christ shall be saved.* *Herein I rejoice, yea, and will rejoice,* with all the redeemed who are taught by the Holy Spirit not to trust in an arm of flesh, nor in broken reeds, or refuges of lies; neither in paper seals, or any such trash; but in the atoning blood and spotless righteousness of the Lord Jesus, the friend of every sinner who is loved with an everlasting love, and with loving-kindness is drawn, and preserved from embracing such errors as are now propagating in the world.



I shall now conclude this small work with the following lines:

No other Saviour will I own  
But him who was at Bethlehem born;  
No other Saviour is for me,  
But him who died on Calvary.

No other Saviour is my king  
But him who did salvation bring:  
Him may I own, him may I love,  
Till I shall reign with him above.

This Saviour did the God of grace  
Provide for all the chosen race,  
Joanna's Seals they cannot trust  
If soul and all's for ever lost.

Now if a man-child should appear,  
The chosen seed have nought to fear,  
For wonders Christ hath said shall be;  
And 'tis no more, if we it see.

But those this man child may embrace  
Who are not call'd by sov'reign grace;  
And those who have for refuge fled  
Will feed on Christ the living bread.

Christ is the way, the only way,  
That leads to realms of endless day;  
No other refuge will I own  
But him who was at Bethlehem born.

Joanna's Saviour may pass by,  
He will not bleed for me, nor die:  
My Christ hath lov'd my soul so well  
He died to ransom it from hell.

All glory to his precious name,  
His love for ever is the same:  
This many of his own have felt,  
Which oft hath made their hearts to melt.

She on me now may pass my doom:  
In hell, for me, there is no room,  
Free grace, and dying love indeed  
My captive soul from thence hath freed.

Now if against me she should write,  
And send me to the shades of night,  
I ne'er shall fear what she may do,  
Because it's truth I have in view.

Her free-will work fights God's decree:

This every one may clearly see.

I know 'tis true, I see 'tis so.

She proves herself truth's mortal foe.

I for Christ's truth do now contend,  
I know Christ is a loving friend:  
Salvation is from him alone,  
For his elect he did atone.

I'm sav'd already in decree,  
Was bless'd when Jesus smil'd on me:  
When he did peace and pardon bring  
I own'd him for my God and King.

Therefore in me she has no share;  
My Christ will save me I aver;  
I know his precious word is past,  
He's my salvation first and last.

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