

GRATIS! GRATIS! GRATIS!

HYPOCRISY EXPOSED;

OR, THE
CLERGY OF EVERY SECT SILENCED:

AND

TRUTH, JUSTICE, AND HUMANITY TRIUMPHANT.

OR,

THREE GREAT QUESTIONS FOR TRUTH-SEEKERS,

VIZ.—

WHAT IS THE FOUNDATION UPON WHICH THE FUTURE HOPES OF THE
SALVATION OF THE PEOPLE NOW REST?

ON WHOM ARE WE TAUGHT TO RELY AS OUR GUIDE TO SALVATION?
OR, WHO TEACHES AND PREACHES THE DOCTRINES OF DEVILS?

“And many shall follow their pernicious ways; by reason of whom the way of truth shall be evil spoken of. And through covetousness shall they with feigned words make merchandise of you: whose judgement now of a long time lingereth not, and their damnation slumbereth not.” 2 PETER ii, 2, 3.

As the Clergy of every sect and denomination, together with their followers, still continue to denounce us as blasphemers, and the doctrines taught by Divine revelation as delusive and diabolical, and we, the Spiritual Circle, having in the month of May, 1858, received instructions in Divine revelation to issue “An Appeal to the Clergy of every Sect and Denomination,” demanding them to stand forth and prove to the world whether or not they were the true and faithful followers of Christ and His apostles, void of hypocrisy, self-interest or worldly gain (for other particulars see the pamphlet referred to); and as our appeal and demand remains unanswered, no clergyman of any sect having yet dared to handle the subject, fearing lest the people should investigate for themselves, and so discover the gross delusions under which they have so long laboured. Still they do not hesitate to pour out their denunciations privately upon the propagators of divine revelation; and hence we have been commanded to issue the present pamphlet, according to the instruction revealed to the Circle on Friday the 30th of July, 1858, at Walker Street, Sneinton, Nottingham. The first important subject, to which Divine revelation, as affixed at the heading of this pamphlet, calls the attention of the great masses of the people, is the gross hypocrisy of the teachers and clergy, to whom we have been taught to look up for our spiritual and moral instruction, and to every thinking mind it is evident that there is nothing in this world which is more visible or more glaring than the hypocrisy, as practiced in the religious world in every denomination; for the clergy of the

Established Church enter their pulpits and hold forth doctrines and principles to their congregations, which they, the said clergy openly deny and set at defiance, until this has become so general, and the people so accustomed to these habits, that they, by such examples and continual tuition, follow the footsteps of their teachers, until the whole population, either wilfully, ignorantly, or by compulsion, have become one mass of hypocrites, to a greater or less degree. There are exceptions it is true, but so few are they, that it is rare indeed to find an individual of either sex, or of any church, who live up to their profession void of hypocrisy. But, on the contrary, we may find numerous persons connected with every denomination, who make their religion serve as a cloak to cover every specie of vice, crime, and immorality, and this system of vice they have learned from the examples set by those in power and authority over them, who do not carry out one of the divine principles which were set forth by him, whose followers they profess to be. Christ and his apostles not only preached but displayed and diffused charity and loving-kindness amongst all men, administering to the afflicted, both in mind and body, preaching the gospel to the poor without salary or fee, forgiving those who trespassed against them, shewing forth in all their actions most divine principles of truth, justice, and humanity, with the noblest of all principles, which is to "Love thy neighbour as thyself." These principles are the foundation upon which the gospel rest, and upon which the Christian church was founded. But what a contrast do we find between the churches of the present day, and that church as founded by the Redeemer and his twelve followers; yet our clergy of every sect, profess to be the ministers of God, followers of Christ, and preachers of his gospel, while they will stand in the presence of large assemblages and preach forth charity and loving-kindness towards their neighbours, hypocritically declaring to God that, by having their own trespasses forgiven them, they will forgive those who trespass against them; and, in many cases, at the same moment, there are persons suffering some punishment at their hands, for offences which would put them to no inconvenience or loss to forgive; while they also hold forth that it is necessary to salvation, that neither servants nor cattle should be compelled to work on the Sabbath-day. Yet their own servants and cattle are compelled to work on that day, which gives further proof of the hypocrisy of those to whom the people are taught to look up for instruction. Again, the faithful followers of Christ were empowered with heavenly gifts, such as healing the sick, raising the lame, and curing divers diseases by the laying on of their hands; and if hypocrisy, fraud, and ambition had not entered the churches, the true ministers and followers of Christ would still have possessed that gift; but whoever heard of a clergyman of any of the present sects and denominations, possessing any one of these heavenly gifts. Who ever knew a clergyman, who was a magistrate in any part of England,

to forgive any man who might be brought before him for an act of trespass, although the said clergyman-magistrate held forth forgiveness of trespasses from the pulpit every Sunday, while the clergy and followers of every sect, with but few exceptions, are equally practitioners of the same specie of hypocrisy. Yet the people are taught that, to disobey their teachers will bring down incarceration, or other miseries in this world, and everlasting torment in the world to come. And, although the threat of eternal torment in hell-fire and brimstone, with the devil and his angels, is advocated by every sect and denomination, yet the clergy of any sect do not themselves believe in eternal torment in hell-fire and brimstone, or in the existence of an individual devil, nor can they find arguments to prove that such really do exist; and their acknowledged unbelief further proves their hypocrisy, in holding forth doctrines which their own conscience deny for the purpose of keeping the people in subjection under them. Notwithstanding that all these, and many more species of hypocrisy, are publicly manifest in every church, yet we find contention and strife reigning amongst the churches, arising solely through the contradictions of the Scriptures, the book upon which all churches are founded; and the most intelligent portion of the clergy are perfectly aware of the contradictions. Hence, though they teach the people to observe it, they do not heed it themselves; so that the dissenting clergy take example by the clergy of the established church, and preach and teach for hire, and thus become hypocrites themselves. In this manner the people of every grade and station, through the false teachings of the clergy, become hypocrites and deceivers one to another, until dissention, strife, and division of principles, hatred, malice, contempt, and mistrust, is manifested amongst all classes of society; so that hypocrisy is now becoming publicly exposed to the eyes of all persons of sound understanding, while truth, justice, righteousness and humanity, will flourish in defiance of all opposition which may be raised against it. Thus the glorious, sacred and holy principles, as set forth in divine modern revelation, will remain triumphant, and continue to spread, even though public will and opinion may oppose it at the onset; for by its fruits and the truths it foretells, and which are fulfilled in successive order, shall divine revelation be known, acknowledged and believed, for truth will stand the test of scrutiny and scepticism, and will remain firm and unshaken; and, as the truths set forth in modern revelation are based on the glorious and holy doctrines as set forth by Christ and his apostles, in their purity, and its propagators are united together in the holy bonds of love, unity, and friendship, for the purpose of unmasking mystery and hypocrisy, and making plain the way to happiness in this world, and rest and glory in the world to come. We fear not the scoffs, the jeers, or the opposition which may be raised against us, knowing that God is with us, and has promised us protection, and wills that his people should be enlightened, mystery and superstition erased, and hypo-

crisy, ambition, and oppression uprooted; so that the people may be prepared to meet their Saviour-King, after passing through the calamities and sufferings as foretold, shall fall upon the false teachers and oppressors, as described in the scripture passage at the heading of this pamphlet. Every earnest seeker after truth is anxiously enquiring as to what the foundation for our hopes of salvation really is. The Established church tell them that their doctrines are the only sound principles to be observed to ensure salvation, and that any other will lead to eternal perdition; while the Catholic church declare that theirs is the ancient and only form of worship as established by Christ, and all others are heretical abominations, the followers of whom will incur eternal torment in hell fire. The Wesleyans, the Baptists, the Primitives, and, in fact, every sect, even to the Mormons, will say the same; and each and all will produce passages from the Bible or Testament to prove their assertions; while the said Bible and Testament is made the foundation of all their separate creeds; and yet they all differ, and are at enmity one with another, one setting forth one doctrine, and another a different form of doctrine: so that, instead of harmony and love existing in society, the church is divided and clashing against its several branches, breaking down, as it were, all the sacred precepts of charity and love one to another. Yet, though the Bible and Testament teach all these contradictory creeds, we are told that, on that book, and the doctrines it sets forth, rests our hopes of salvation: and, although the apostles of Christ, before their death, warned the people that hypocrisy, ambition and oppression would creep into the church, and though more than eighteen hundred years have elapsed since that period, and Christianity, in its present form, with its corruptions and pollutions, has been preached to and taught the people, yet what are the results of all these centuries of religious professions, let me ask. Have vice or crime in any way diminished? or have ambition or oppression decreased? or have the conditions of the people either morally or spiritually been improved? On the contrary, ambition and oppression has increased, vice, crime, and immorality has become more prevalent, and the condition of the people, both morally and spiritually, have become gradually worse, until they are so depraved, through the tuition of those who govern and teach them, that the people detest each other, and look upon their neighbours with suspicion and mistrust. Still we boast of being a Christian nation, guided in all our actions by the gospel of Christ; while our very conduct teaches us, and proves to the satisfaction of every unprejudiced and deep thinking person, that our future hopes of salvation are based upon a system which is rotten to its very core; and that our religious forms and ceremonies, as practiced in the several churches in the present day, are founded on a mass of hypocrisy, ambition, delusion, contradiction, and deception, and is divided against itself, and therefore cannot stand. And yet, such is the foundation on which the people are taught to build their hopes of future salvation.

Having, as far as space will admit, exposed the hypocrisy of the clergy and teachers of every sect and denomination, and shown that the foundation of the whole system of religious teaching is rotten and deceptive, we will now show on what kind of persons the people are taught to look up to as their guide to salvation. We have already shewn that the Bishops and Clergy of every sect, live in open defiance and opposition to the doctrines which they teach the people are necessary to be believed to obtain salvation; and yet, although the said clergy neither keep the commandments nor obey the law; neither administer relief to the sick, nor contribute towards towards the alleviation of the poor, by carrying out the principles of charity, but look upon those beneath them with contempt, pocketing their salaries, which are wrung from the hard earnings of the poor, directly or indirectly, with the coolest effrontery, living in luxury, squandering wealth in wilful extravagance, while thousands of their fellow creatures are famishing for want. Also, under pretence of charity and loving-kindness, men or women are paid to visit the houses of the poor, for the purpose of reading the scriptures, which, notwithstanding the immorality, vice, oppression and contradictions they contain, the people are taught to believe are the real words of God; and, therefore, they must be contented, and abide by what the scriptures saith, and be submissive to their rulers and teachers, and contented in whatever situation they may be placed, as it is the will of God. This mockery is the only consolation which the clergy and teachers think it necessary to bestow on starving families, who are living and grovelling in the depths of misery, in a state of starvation. Yes, such are the men to whom we are taught to look up as our guide to salvation,—men who are guilty of every act of oppression, and who are strangers to the administration of charity, and yet cover all their abominations with a cloak of religious hypocrisy, professing to be the ministers of God, followers of Christ and his apostles, and preachers of their gospel. It may be said that the dissenting clergy are not guilty of those acts of oppression and hypocrisy, as many of them, the local preachers in particular, have no salaries, and walk for miles to preach what they believe to be the truth. True there are many well-meaning men in all denominations, who labour hard for what they believe to be the glory of God, and no matter whatever sect or denomination a person may belong to, if they live up to their profession, void of hypocrisy, believing it to be right, such persons are Christians, and are not responsible for the delusions they have been taught to propagate. But the heads of the churches, and those who are aware of the corrupt state of the scriptures, with the objects of their corruption, are responsible for all the evils which result to mankind, through the false teachings and false doctrines propagated; and though the dissenting clergy have not the law to protect them in the enforcement of payment of high salaries, yet even they receive all which their societies can wring from their followers by any means, and would be quite as rapacious and grasping as the clergy of the established church, if the law would permit them. Yet these are the men who denounce prophecy and false prophets, when in reality they are themselves the very men who are propagating false doctrines, and deluding the people by advocating hell fire and brimstone as an

eternal punishment for offences of sin; and who, also, are the very persons as spoken of in Paul's epistle to Timothy, which states that in the latter days many shall give way to the teachings of seducing spirits; and Peter says in his epistle, that many shall follow their pernicious ways, by reason of which truth shall be evil spoken of. And now let us look at the numerous sects and denominations which exist, and the numbers which cling to and follow in the footsteps of the heads of these numerous churches, and we shall find that they exactly correspond with the words of the Apostles Paul and Peter, and that they are largely and loudly spreading hypocrisy, and teaching false doctrines. Who but they are fulfilling the words of Paul, as addressed to Timothy, in the first verse of the fourth chapter and first epistle, in reference to teaching and preaching the doctrine of devils. Divine revelation denies the existence of a devil, or any other monster, individual, or being, who can divide the Almighty power of God, as the devil is represented to do. Therefore, we, the Spiritual Circle, or members of the Great Organization, and propogators of divine modern revelation, cannot be said either to preach or teach the doctrines of devils. On the contrary, we are taught by the angel of the Lord, in divine revelation, that men have for ages in this world been kept in superstitious fear

Of devils, hell, and wild torments
In everlasting flame,

Which I'm commanded to denounce,
In God's eternal name.

Such is Divine revelation, and therefore those whose duty and instruction is to propagate it, utterly deny all doctrines which propagates or advocates the existence of a devil, or of eternal torment in hell fire and brimstone. Then who are they who teach and preach the doctrines of devils? Who but they whose interest it is to maintain their positions and salaries, stand in the pulpit and tell the people that it is their duty to be submissive to their rulers and teachers, and that to be otherwise will bring down upon them everlasting torment in hell fire with the devil and his angels, who, the false teachers declare, is going about like a roaring lion seeking whom he may devour, and that, in defiance of the power of God who created all things, he can decoy men into his snares, and thus triumph over God in the victories he thus obtains. Yet they pretend to acknowledge and avow that God is the author and ruler of all things, and that he is omnipotent Lord of all, and yet they teach by the doctrines of devils that his power is divided; now let me ask the learned bishops, clergy, and teachers from whence did the said devil emanate? or to what does this monster owe his origin? The clergy will say that he was an angel of light cast out of heaven for his disobedience, forgetting that they the clergy have acknowledged in their prayers that God is the author, creator, ruler, and governor of all creation, and that he seeketh and knoweth the secrets of all our hearts; therefore if omnipotent, his will could prevent any evil thought from being engendered in the minds of any, especially in the minds of his angelic host, whom we are told dwell around his throne, and yet in the face of this acknowledged power of God, this angel of light, as we are told in scripture, while dwelling in the immediate presence of God, was enabled to plot a conspiracy against his God without the knowledge of that God, and the conspiracy was so far carried on without discovery until open rebellion

ensued, and a mighty war followed between the great archangel Michiel and his followers, and the conspirator and his followers, who were by main force alone ejected and driven out of heaven, God, with all his omnipotence, power, and knowledge, having no other means of quelling the rebellion. After ejecting the enemy, to make peace with him, God made him the god of this world. Such then we are taught is the origin of the devil, and now let me ask the clergy how it is that if heaven be a place of all-purity, justice, holiness, and piety? and how, if God knoweth the secrets of all hearts, so that in his presence nothing evil could manifest itself or exist—now, I say, could such disorderly tumult, strife, and evil contention exist in heaven? or how can the vilest of all evils, and the wickedest of all wicked ones derive his origin from purity, holiness, truth, and justice combined? Let these questions be satisfactorily answered by those who propagate such doctrines, and the minds of all the human race will be set at rest. But at present, to the minds of every sober thinking person, and to the minds of the clergy themselves, the doctrines advocating such principles are the most absurd and erroneous; still they have so long frightened the generality of the people into the belief of the existence of a devil and hell-fire, that the people appear in defiance of justice, truth, or reason to cling to these pernicious doctrines of devils, and thus the salaries and high position of the clergy are maintained, and the clergy pocket their salaries; seeing that there is so much mystery set before them in connection with the future, that they believe that it is better to provide for the material comforts in this life, than to sacrifice them and depend on the dark and mysterious future. Thousands of their followers think the same, and hence the ignorance and destitution amongst the toiling masses, who notwithstanding the extreme oppression under which they groan and labour, are the very first to raise their voices against those whose whole study is to alleviate their distress, and teach them how to free themselves from bondage. This has been the case in all ages, and why is it? It is simply because so much imposition, fraud, and deception have been heaped upon them under a pretence of bettering their condition, and extricating the masses from the bonds of slavery, when in reality those who made such pretensions only studied their own interests, and enriched themselves at the expence and credulity of the people who were their dupes. Thus the great masses of the people cannot now believe that any man, or party of men, will stand forward, and incur the scoffs and rebukes of the populace, for the mere sake of serving God and benefitting their fellow creatures, without some interested motives and ideas of enriching themselves; nor will the people be prevailed upon to believe the contrary, no matter how self-sacrificing the parties may be, or what proofs they can bring forward as to their sincerity. All these evils, this ignorance, this unbelief, and this depravity and prejudice has arisen from the clergy and false teachers and false prophets of the present day, who hold forth to the people as a threat from heaven, which is blasphemy and a libel on the divine character of God, that there is eternal torment for sinners (who have not repented), in hell-fire and brimstone, with the devil and his angels; and they who do this, no matter to whatever sect and denomination they belong, they only are the teachers and preachers of the doctrines of devils and false prophets.

Let the clergy of every sect, and their followers, or those who are wont to deny the truths as contained in this pamphlet, in the exposure of their hypocrisy and delusion, search the scriptures, or the book to which they pretend to cling with such tenacity, and they will find sterling proofs of every assertion as herein contained, and these assertions, divine revelation, both ancient and modern confirm. What have the ministers of the various churches ever done towards the relief or the restoration of the afflicted, or in alleviating the wants of the poor? And, it may be asked, what have we, the propagators of revelation, done toward healing the sick, or administering to the wants of the poor? These questions we can fearlessly answer, while the clergy, or teachers and ministers of the churches in the present day, to the same questions, must stand confounded and remain silent, proving by their works and actions that they are hypocrites, professing to be the followers of Christ without possessing any of the power, or heavenly gifts, which the true and faithful ministers of Christ really had conferred upon them. But though, through hypocrisy and wickedness, the power of performing miracles has been withheld from the church, yet we, the Spiritual Circle, and, as we hope and trust, the faithful servants of God, and followers of Christ and his apostles, strictly keeping his precepts to the utmost of our capabilities, can say and substantiate our assertions, that we, under the blessings and directions of heaven, have, through our medium, been enabled to raise hundreds of individuals in all parts of the country, who were suffering from the various diseases to which the human frame is subject. Some of them confirmed cripples, and who were deemed incurable, all medical treatment having failed both in hospitals and out. To prove these assertions we can produce hundreds of testimonials, with the names and addresses of the individuals cured, a great many of them being already in print; and, though we neither profess or set ourselves up to be Jesus, Paul, Peter, James, or John, or take upon ourselves any of the sanctified rites of Christ, or his apostles of old, yet we have faith in the power of God; and by serving him truly, we have full confidence in successfully carrying out our instructions, which consist in using all our exertions and energy for the glory of God, and the welfare of our fellow creatures, void of worldly gain, self-interest, ambition, or a worldly name, and we can stand the test of scrutiny, and investigation; for by their works and fruits shall the true ministers of God, and the faithful followers of Christ be known.

We now call upon the clergy and the people to investigate, and see whether the works of God, or the machinations of hypocrites and deceivers, can be confuted or confounded; and, notwithstanding all the assertions and accusations which are herein made, be it understood, that we bear no ill-feeling towards the clergy or their followers, or any other individual, however much they may oppose us. But their works and their system, which are based on tyranny, hypocrisy and deception, we are taught to despise and shrink from; while we feel the greatest compassion and brotherly love towards the supporters of these vices, knowing that the time is not far distant when they will suffer the vengeance of God's wrath, unless they desist from their evil ways. With these timely warnings, we, in true charity towards all men, subscribe ourselves,

(In behalf of the Spiritual Circle)

J. G. H. BROWN, MEDIUM.

T. C. STRETTON, SECRETARY.

Walker Street, Sneinton, Nottm.

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