

versal AGENT has confined himself from doing as much upon all Occasions, by his *immediate* tho' *secret* Influence? Or even infinitely more than this: As in raising, turning, allaying Winds and Seas, and numberless other Operations, where other Powers inferior to his are insufficient to compass his Designs.

So, in *Scripture*, the vast Varieties of Winds and Seas, of Clouds and Vapours, Snow, Fire and Rain, Cold and Heat, and other material Substances, are represented as continually directed by him, to fulfil his Pleasure. See *Job* xxxvi, xxxvii, xxxviii. *Psalms* lxxv, cxlvii, cxlviii, &c.

Nor may this be accounted *properly miraculous* — For it would be strange indeed that the huge *Leviathan* should by a Power derived from Him, throw up a Cloud of Water into the Air; or even the most minute *Animalculum*, by the Pad of a Fin, in a Moment raise up Millions of watery Particles against the Laws of Gravity, without a Miracle: And yet for the great God to raise up a single Atom by his *immediate* Power, should be esteemed a Miracle. And as long as these are the *usual*, tho' the *immediate* Operations of God; they are no more miraculous, than his *immediate* Impression of Gravity on material Substances, or on any primary Substance whereby the Impression may be made on others.

2. In his Operation on Substances *purely Spiritual* — He not only by his continual Influence preserves them in their distinguishing Existence, Nature or essential Properties of *Life*, and Powers of *Perceiving*, *Thinking*, *voluntary Motion*, &c. He has been pleas'd to give them; but to this Influence he also seems to add his further *usual* Operations in these *three* Ways.

(1) By *producing* and continuing *secret*, inward *Bents* or *Dispositions* in them; as the holy Bents of holy Angels, and holy Souls departed, &c.

(2) By *raising* and continuing *Ideas* in their Imaginations, Memories, and Understandings; as also impressing them with various Perceptions of *Delight* or *Trouble*: Whereby he chiefly seems to rule the *moral* World. So he continually gives the Millions of holy Angels his *Directions*: And they are constantly attending to him, and in every Part of the Universe accomplishing his Orders. And so he makes the holy Angels happy with Perceptions of
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