

we may hope from his mercy, or fear from his displeasure.

Y. Does God make revelations of his will to every man ?

T. Not immediate revelations. He revealed his will first to Adam ; then to Noah, and Abraham, and others among the Patriarchs ; to Moses and the Prophets ; and finally by Christ and his Apostles. We acknowledge no other revelations ? and these were intended, in different degrees, for the benefit of mankind at large.

Y. Have all these revelations been recorded ?

T. No : revelation is distinguished into ORAL and WRITTEN. The revelations which were made to the Patriarchs were transmitted by word of *mouth*, and *handed down* from one age to another. For this reason revelation among them is said to be *oral*, or *traditional* ; and the long duration of their lives preserved it from being corrupted. These original truths, doctrines, and traditional facts, were thus transmitted to Moses, who wrote them, and the laws which he received from God in the wilderness of Sinai, in the five books which bear his name, and are called the *Pentateuch*. The other books of the Old Testament, whether historical, poetical, or prophetic, were written by inspired men called *Prophets*, by the command of God, and compose the book called the *Old Testament*. Our Lord committed nothing to writing ; but his life and discourses were written after his resurrection by four of his disciples, under the influence of the Holy Spirit, who "brought all things to their remembrance. The book of the Acts of the Apostles, which contains an account of the first planting of Christianity in the world, was written by St. Luke ; the Epistles and the Revelation by different Apostles, all under the influence of the Holy Spirit. These collectively are denominated the

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