

Such solid virtues as have been referred to, are best favoured and cherished by adhering to the maxims of Holy writ ; and Divine Providence generally blesses them with success and reputation. Even so distant and feeble an approximation to his own infinite excellence the Kings of kings *delighteth to honour*.

Thus, then, it appears that Godliness, by the principles it inculcates, and the practices it enjoins, is eminently favourable to the temporal interests of mankind at large, and that the Bible, as a Code of Morals, is worthy of perpetual and universal regard.

But these precepts, excellent as they must be deemed by every considerate and well-ordered mind, may be observed from very insufficient and unworthy motives. Adapted as they are to promote individual and general benefit, they may be resorted to for that very end, and that alone ; from a mere principle of selfishness, without the slightest regard to the authority which enjoined them. A thoughtful and observant man, reflecting on the tendencies of human action, and learning wisdom from the experience of others, is directly led to the conclusion that “Honesty is the best policy,” and that the safest way of obtaining an object is to pursue it cautiously and laboriously ; and this conviction falling in with his natural temperament, he resolves to act with integrity, and to manage all his affairs with diligence and moderation. He adopts the plan, pursues it, and prospers. To such a one, we may say—‘You have gained your object, but you have failed in your duty, because you *gave not God the glory*.