

Is not man but as an atom in thy universe; and the son of man but as a worm before thee? Or if our own insignificance be insufficient to shield us from thy wrath, hear, we beseech thee, the voice of intercession from Him whom thou hearest always; and look on the blood that flowed from the cross to wash away the sins of men and of nations.

ABSTINENCE from food is nothing; nor are any outward marks of humiliation of the least importance, but so far as they are undissembled and faithful tokens of the affections which prevail within. We have, this day, assembled to make confession of our sins, and to implore, for ourselves and for our country, the pardon of heaven, and the continuance of that protection and favour, by which, above every other land, ours has been long and eminently distinguished. To the prayer of unfeigned piety the God, whom we serve, refuseth not to listen. But let us beware of deceiving ourselves;