

There is another reason or two given by early Christian writers why they worshipped towards the East: such as that our Lord Jesus Christ is called "the Sun of righteousness," and "the Day-spring," and "the Day-star from on high." From this it is, perhaps, more than probable that it was in this way (that is, by worshipping towards the dawn and the sun-rising.) that they realized the truths that Jesus is the Mediator, through whom all our worship must be offered; that in him resides all the fulness of the Godhead, and that he is "God manifested in the flesh." And in that view there would be a special propriety in making the confession of our faith to him, and in using an outward ceremony which is intended to remind us that this is what we may most fittingly do.

I began with noting the wide extent of this and its venerable antiquity. On this part of the subject I have a word or two more to say. When I was in England, at a jubilee of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel, held in 1851, in St. Paul's Cathedral, I observed that the whole body of the congregation turned to the chancel at the Creed; not only so, but the whole body of Bishops present, without distinction, used the same custom. Why is it so seldom used in Canada?

Again, did no one ever observe that Christians generally, without distinction, place their graves with the feet to the East. Why do they do this? Simply because it is the old custom. How did this custom originate? From the same idea from which worshipping towards the East is said to have originated. They are so placed in order that, when the Lord comes to judgment, and they rise on their feet out of their graves, that may meet immediately the sight of Him descending from heaven. Can any one give another reason?

Still further, most Christian churches, in most Christian lands, are placed with their chancels to the east. What can have been the origin of that custom? Clearly the ancient practice of worshipping towards the east. Can any one give another cause?

I have heard it objected that there is no rubrical or canonical direction for that custom. But will any one point out to me a rubric or a canon directing us to stand at reciting the Psalms and