

laws of God—that habitual sense of our obligation to serve him, which naturally flows from a firm belief of his existence and presence—from unfeigned love, and a desire to please him. It also includes every moral and social virtue—truth, justice, integrity, benevolence.—Thus, righteousness comprises our duty to God and man, as I said before; which might be evinced from various passages of scripture, were it necessary; and in this sense it is opposed, as in my text, to sin and vice.

When Solomon therefore asserts that righteousness exalteth a nation, but sin is a reproach to any people; it is the same as if he had said—sincere piety and virtue exalt a nation to the highest degree of temporal prosperity, and diffuse happiness among the individuals that compose it; they insure the Almighty's favour, and avert his judgments: Whereas, sin and vice draw down his vengeance, and will make a people miserable, wretched and despicable.

This subject is worthy of serious consideration, since few involve consequences of greater moment; and it is my wish and aim that you may derive advantage from it at present. For this purpose, let me request your patient attention, whilst, with all plainness and sincerity, I endeavour

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