

not be so much the more inexcusable, to neglect what is so easy, as well as pleasing to God?

You will tell me perhaps---That Parents are obliged to instruct their Children---to bring them up in the Nurture and Admonition of the Lord. I grant they are---the Ties of Nature, and the Laws of God, oblige them to this. But *their* Obligation no more acquits you from discharging *your* Duty; than *your* Obligation acquits them from discharging *theirs*. If Parents do their Duty to Children, Sponsors certainly have the less to do; yet still they should see that the Child be "virtuously brought up to lead a godly and a Christian Life." But are there not many Parents who neglect their Duty?---Who pay little or no Attention to their own Salvation, or to that of their Children?

Here more especially the Sponsor should take Care and exert himself. To guard against the ill Effects which result from such Neglect in these Cases, is one principal Reason, why the Church of God requires Security for the Christian Education of those Children which it admits to be its Members. But this pious Caution is entirely frustrated, if Sponsors neglect their Duty.

If you are a Sponsor therefore, do not fail to be mindful of your Obligation. The Interest of Religion, the Honour of God, with the Benefit of the Child you presented to Baptism, are all nearly connected with the Discharge of your Duty. It will also tend to wipe off the Reproach of Gainsayers, who make an Handle of such Defects as are justly chargeable on Individuals only, against our Church in general. Besides, pious Regulations and orthodox Principles, joined with unsound Practice, are by no Means consistent, nor will the former alone avail us any Thing. Avail us, did I say? They will rise in Judgment against us, and aggravate our Guilt, if we act inconsistent with them.

Let your Prayers then ascend to God in Behalf of the Infant you have dedicated to him---that, "being regenerate,