

ESSAY
ON
THE CHARACTER OF JESUS CHRIST.

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THE character of our Lord is one of the most important subjects that can occupy the thoughts of a Christian.

As a whole, it presents one of the most striking evidences of the truth of that religion which he came to establish ; whether we consider it as the fulfilment of prophecies which were uttered hundreds of years previous to his appearance in our world ; or, as the exhibition of a moral character so incomparably superior to all that this earth can produce, or even the best and wisest men could summon up to their imaginations. The character of our Lord is not only worthy of being considered, on account of the evidence which it affords of the truth of the Christian revelation, but also on account of the personal advantages which may flow from the contemplation of the most exalted pattern of excellence which can be placed before the mind of a human being. The great object of the Christian religion is the restoration of man to the favour of God, and one of its most powerful means of assimilating our character to that of the God whom we worship is setting before us the example of the man Christ Jesus. Indeed the very perfection of Christian character is the being conformed to his image ; and the great aim of a Christian life while on earth is to have the same mind in him which was also in Christ Jesus.