

# THE ALTAR AND THE THRONE.

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## "THE BIBLE, THE WHOLE BIBLE."

What is the *Chart* that marks the way  
To guide poor pilgrims, lest they stray,  
To the bright world of endless day?  
The Word of God.

What is that *Food*, so pure and sweet,  
Milk for the babe, and stronger meat  
For those of riper age to eat?  
God's precious Word.

What is the *Medicine* of the soul,  
The balm to make the wounded whole?—  
O spread its fame from pole to pole!  
God's precious Word.

What is that *Lamp* that burns so bright,  
That shines amidst the world's dark night,  
And gives so true and safe a light?  
God's precious Word.

What *Mine* is that which Christians own,  
An ancient mine of wealth unknown,  
A mine of truth, and truth alone?  
God's precious Word.

What is that *Sword* so sharp and bright,  
With which all Christian soldiers fight,  
And put their numerous foes to flight?  
God's precious Word.

What makes, throughout, the Saviour known  
Points all to Him, and Him alone,  
And bids us claim Him as our own?  
God's precious Word.  
J. C.

## THE BIBLE OUR CHART AND CHARTER.

[MODIFIED FROM W. HUNTINGDON.]

"All things whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them; for this is the law and the prophets.—  
Matt. vii. 12. Deut. xvi. 18-20.

THE BIBLE is so complete that nothing can be added to it or taken from it without serious evils resulting. It contains every thing needful to be known and done, and it is a complete code of

Laws, a perfect body of divinity. It affords a copy for a King, and a rule for a Subject. It gives instruction and counsel to a Senate, authority and direction to the Magistrate. It cautions a Witness, requires an impartial verdict of a Jury, and furnishes the Judge with his sentence.

It sets the Husband as Lord of the Household, and the Wife as Mistress of the Table. It tells him how to rule, and her how to manage. It maintains and limits the honor due to parents and to all in authority, and enjoins obedience and respect on Children, Servants, and subjects. It bestows the blessing and protection of its Author on all who walk by its Rules.

It is the best Covenant that ever was agreed on, the best Deed that ever was sealed, the best Testament that ever was signed. It gives directions for Weddings and Burials. It appoints a dowry for the wife, entails the right of the first-born, and shows how the younger branches shall be left. It teaches a Man how to set his house in order, and how to make his will. It points out to the departing Husband and Father a faithful and everlasting Guardian for his widow and fatherless children. It defends the rights of all, and threatens with vengeance every defrauder, overreacher, or oppressor. It provides food and raiment, and limits the use of both.

It is the first Book, the best Book, the oldest Book, and the most compendious Book in all the world. It contains the choicest matter and the best instruction, affording the purest pleasure and the most entire satisfaction. It brings the best tidings to the Enquirer, and affords the greatest comfort to the Disconsolate, and rejoices the dying with the prospect of Life and Immortality.

It is a brief recital of all that is past, and a certain prediction of all that is to come. It is the best evidence that ever was produced. It resolves all doubts, settles all matters in debate, and eases the mind and conscience of all scruples. It contains the laws of the profoundest Mysteries. It reveals the only LIVING AND TRUE GOD, and shows the way to obtain His friendship. It sets aside all other gods, and describes the vanity of trusting in them.

It is a Book of Knowledge to show the Right and Wrong. A Book of Wisdom, that makes wise the simple. It is a Book of Truth, that detects all Errors and denounces Hypocrisy. It is a Book of Life, that shows the way to escape death.

It is the most Ancient and entertaining History. It is unequalled as a Book of Lives Travels, and Voyages. It records the most heroic deeds and unparalleled Wars. It describes the Celestial, Terrestrial, and Infernal Worlds, and gives the history of their Inhabitants. It will instruct the most accomplished Mechanic, and the profoundest Artist. It will teach the best Rhetorician, and exercise the most skillful Arithmetician. It will puzzle the wisest Anatomist, and the nicest Critic. It corrects the vain Philosopher and confutes the wisest Astronomer. It exposes the subtle Sophist, and drives Diviners mad.

It is the School-boy's Spelling Book, the Young Man's Companion, and the learned Man's Masterpiece. It contains a choice Grammar for a novice, and a profound Mystery for a Sage. It is the Ignorant Man's Dictionary, and the Wise Man's Directory. It affords knowledge of witty inventions for the humorous, and dark sayings for profound thinkers, and is its own Interpreter.

It encourages the Wise, the Warrior, and the Swift by the promise of an Eternal reward to the Excellent, the Conqueror, the Winner.

It has God for its Author, and it is worthy of Him—who, is "without partiality and without hypocrisy."

## AN OPEN BIBLE ESSENTIAL TO GOOD GOVERNMENT.

Religion is essential to good government, because religion alone fully develops the principles and awakens the affections that hold families and societies together.

The religion for the governor is that of the Bible. We find there and there alone, all that can really lead men to their hourly self-control which renders good government possible. But we must not substitute for the Religion of the Bible, the superstitions and idolatries of Pagan or Popish priests.

Without the Bible the government of the despot may succeed,—the government of fear and of self-interest: but free government is impossible.

It is precisely this that has made the Government of the British Empire so easy, and on the whole so excellent, for three hundred years. There has been an open Bible in the hands of the people. They have had the opportunity of imbibing from its pages the only true principles of right government. And it is precisely the want of this open Bible that has made the government of the Roman Catholic population so difficult, both in Ireland and in our large cities. Their priests refuse them the Bible, and lay it as a sin upon their consciences if they peruse it. They refuse to introduce even their own version of it into their schools. They curse and persecute those who would teach their people to read it. And thus the Roman Catholics are kept in ignorance of the word of God and of the true principles of Government. The Wesleyans, the Independents, the Presbyterians, the Baptists, the Episcopalian Church of England, all with one voice not only allow, but urge upon their people, the study of this open Bible as containing the surest code of morals in the world. The Roman Catholic priests alone forbid access to it, and therefore it comes to pass that not only are their people very troublesome to govern, but that a larger proportion of criminals, in comparison with the population, is furnished by their flocks than by any other portion of the community.

It is true that a multitude of those belonging to other forms of religion never do practically read the Bible, and therefore we have so much irreligion and crime amongst us. But even those who do not read the Bible are subject to the influence of those amongst them who do, and in point of fact adopt a higher standard of general morality in consequence. But the Roman Catholic is forced by his priest into a narrow circle of his own, in which he is to admit no human and no Divine authority for his governance but that of the priest. Whatever may be set before him even as of Divine authority he must accept from the mouth of the priest alone and that priest the servile agent of the Pope. This is a more monstrous inversion of all right, than if our people at large were forbidden access to the statute law, and compelled to receive what they may know of it from the dicta of certain offi-