

cessarily connected, founded upon the Nature & Reason of Things. They are of, Consequence, moral Duties, and of perpetual Obligation. The universal Practice of Mankind, even in the most barbarous & uncivilised Nations, where they have Nothing but the Light of Nature to direct them, is a sufficient Evidence of what I have now asserted. They have all, as far as our Discoveries extend, their particular Seasons for Divine Worship ; their solemn Assemblies, and sacred Festivals.

The Matter in Debate then, is not whether particular Seasons should be appropriated to publick Worship ; *this* Nature teaches, and *this* even the illiterate Savage confesses : But the Question is this ; What is the proper Proportion for Man in his present State ? I say, for Man in his present State : for other Creatures, as far as we know, may have different Proportions assigned them ; as their Obligations, Circumstances & Necessities, may differ from our's. The elect Angels, & the Spirits of just Men made perfect, are capable of solemnising a perpetual Sabbath ; and their *Hallelujahs* ascend, incessant. This certainly cannot be expected of us ; for it is a Service which, upon many Accounts, we are not able to perform. The whole Difficulty then lies, in assigning a proper Proportion for Man in his present State. And this is a Point concerning which, if there was no Revelation to determine it, it is impossible that the Generality of Mankind should ever agree. The Consequence of this would have been, that the Proportions assigned would have been every whit as various as the Tempers of Men ; and it is highly probable, that in a little Time, there would have been no Proportion at all. Those of a superstitious Turn would have been for multiplying these Seasons, and devoting the bigger Part of their Time ; while others of a gayer Disposition, and looser Principles, (which are generally the most numerous ) would have thought once in a Month, once in a Year, or perhaps once in their Lives, sufficient. In such a Case as this, it is reasonable to imagine, that the God of