



Practical Discourses on the Liturgy of the Church of England, Vol. 3 of 3 (Classic Reprint)

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Excerpt from Practical Discourses on the Liturgy of the Church of England, Vol. 3 of 3 From hence the Church took occasion to profess and declare their faith in this great point, and to pay their solemn praises and adorations to the three several Persons: yea, though this doctrine of the blessed Trinity was daily owned in the hymns, creeds, and doxologies of the Church, yet one day was thought fit to be consecrated to the celebrating of this great and adorable mystery. And because Christs visible ascending up to heaven, and the Holy Ghosts visible descending from thence, gave no small light and confirmation to this great truth therefore the Sunday after Whitsunday, which was before observed as the Octave of Pentecost, was made choice of for this purpose. And this is the day on which we now commemorate the holy Trinity. Accordingly, the collect for the day teaches us, - First, By the confession of a true faith to acknowledge the glory of the eternal Trinity. Secondly, In the power of the Divine Majesty to worship the Unity. Thirdly, To pray for grace to be kept steadfast in this faith, against all adversities and opposition whatever. For the First, The epistle for the day sets forth something of the glory of the eternal Trinity from whence we may learn to acknowledge and adore it. This St. John here doth in a vision, representing God the Son sitting on the throne of his Father, and coming with his holy angels to judge the world. The vision begins in the first words: After this I looked, and behold a door was opened in heaven. Here he seems, with St. Paul, to be rapt up to the third heaven. 2 Cor. xii. 2. Where, looking about, he saw as it were the door of heaven opened unto him: And the first voice that I heard (saith he) was as it were of a trumpet talking with me, which said, Come up hither, and I will shew thee things which must be hereafter that is, by the help of a shrill loud voice, imitating the sound of a trumpet, he received revelations of some future things, which should in time come to pass which things, we may suppose, related to the last judgment. Upon the sight and hearing of these things, immediately (saith he) I was in the spirit that is, in a trance or ecstasy, like St. Paul in the forecited place, Whether in the body or out of the body, he could not tell, God knoweth: or else, his being in the spirit, might be his feeling some secret impulses or motions of Gods Holy Spirit stirring within him. And behold, (saith he,) a throne was set in heaven, and one sat on the throne. About the Publisher Forgotten Books publishes hundreds of thousands of rare and classic books. Find more at www.forgottenbooks.com This book is a reproduction of an important historical work. Forgotten Books uses state-of-the-art technology to digitally reconstruct the work, preserving the original format whilst repairing imperfections present in the aged copy. In rare cases, an imperfection in the original, such as a blemish or missing page, may be replicated in our edition. We do, however, repair the vast majority of imperfections successfully any imperfections that remain are intentionally left to preserve the state of such historical works.

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