

A

JOB ABBOTT;

OR,

REASONS

FOR ABANDONING

THE TRINITARIAN, ARIAN, AND UNITARIAN
DOCTRINES,

AND EMBRACING THAT OF

The New Christian Church:

CONTAINING, ALSO, STRICTURES ON

THE GENERAL BAPTIST "CONFESSION OF FAITH,"

WITH

SOME REMARKS ON THE PECULIAR DOCTRINES OF
THE METHODISTS AND QUAKERS.

A NARRATIVE DRAWN UP BY A MINISTER.

A man unblameable in word and thought,
A man hath risen,—a man whom God hath taught,—
With all Elijah's dignity of tone,
And all the love of the beloved John,
To storm the citadels men build in air,
And smite the untemper'd wall 'tis death to spare,
To sweep away all refuges of lies,
And place, instead of quirks that men devise,
The living truths of God before their eyes.

LONDON:

JAMES S. HODSON, 112, FLEET STREET.

1841.

A

W 31
174

A

JOB ABBOTT;

OR,

REASONS

FOR ABANDONING

THE TRINITARIAN, ARIAN, AND UNITARIAN
DOCTRINES,

AND EMBRACING THAT OF

The New Christian Church:

CONTAINING, ALSO, STRICTURES ON

THE GENERAL BAPTIST "CONFESSION OF FAITH,"

WITH

SOME REMARKS ON THE PECULIAR DOCTRINES OF
THE METHODISTS AND QUAKERS.

A NARRATIVE DRAWN UP BY A MINISTER.

A man unblameable in word and thought,
A man hath risen,—a man whom God hath taught,—
With all Elijah's dignity of tone,
And all the love of the beloved John,
To storm the citadels men build in air,
And smite the untemper'd wall 'tis death to spare.
To sweep away all refuges of lies,
And place, instead of quicks that men devise,
The living truths of God before their eyes.

LONDON:

JAMES S. HODSON, 112, FLEET STREET.

1841.

A

W 31
174

CONTENTS.

	Page
INTRODUCTORY REMARKS	ix
Changes in Religious Opinions perfectly justifiable	1
Circumstances and character of JOB ABBOTT	6
The <i>General Baptists</i> , and their Confession of faith, with reasons for entering on the discussion of that Confession	9
The true meaning and real uses of Baptism	12
The Trinity, as believed in by Tri-personalists or Trinitarians, with a quotation from the General Baptist Confession	15
Examination of <i>Jones on the Trinity</i> , a work circulated by the bishops and clergy	18
The supposed Consultation between the supposed three Divine Persons	19
Trinitarian perversion of 2 Cor. v. 19	24
Remarkable contradictions and anomalies in Jones's work on the Trinity	25
Difficulties attendant on the Trinitarian Doctrine.....	27
Arianism	29
The Orthodox doctrine of the Atonement, not the Apostolic doctrine	30
The true nature of the Apostolic Atonement briefly stated	31
That to imitate the conduct imputed to God in the Tripersonal Atonement would be wicked	33
The contrariety of the Orthodox or Tripersonal Atonement to Scripture and reason further considered	34
The Orthodox idea of Divine Justice contrasted with the Scrip- ture idea, and Article 10 of the General Baptist Confession quoted	36
The false idea of Redemption contrasted with the true	39
Prayer to the Father for the sake of the Son both irrational and unscriptural	40

	Page
The merits of Jesus Christ explained	44
The Lord Jesus Christ grants prayer, and forgives sin, Himself...	45
The true meaning of all things being given by the Father to the Son, stated <i>in a Note</i>	48
The moral influence of the Tripersonal Atonement considered ...	49
The absurdity of the common notion of the Intercession of the Son with the Father	58
The true idea of such Intercession	61
Revealed Truth not above reason	63
Although the New Christian church joins the Unitarians in rejecting Trinitarian errors, it equally rejects the doctrines affirmed by Unitarians	66
Salvation is by Scriptural regeneration: Article 13 of the General Baptist Confession quoted	68
The doctrine of "salvation by faith only" considered: same article further quoted	69
Pardon is not the same as salvation	80
Judgment is to be according to works, and not according to faith.	81
Novel idea of a good life entertained by General Baptists	82
Charity greater than faith.....	83
Moral effects of solifidianism or the doctrine of salvation by faith only	85
Meekness for heaven	87
Articles 13 and 23 of the General Baptist Confession irreconcilable: further remarks on the Judgment according to works ...	89
Bigotry and persecution the necessary result of the belief in salvation by faith only	90
Death-bed Repentance	94
Wesleyan Methodists, and the strange contradictions in the Rev. John Wesley's statements of his peculiar doctrines	96
Bitterness of faith-alone Protestants against the Roman Catholics	110
That the remission of sins through the perfect righteousness of Jesus Christ had reference only to sins committed antecedent to his coming, and how this is to be understood	112
A saving faith	114
Repentance and self-examination .	116
Confession of sin by those who say they cannot keep the commandments, an act of hypocrisy ...	117
Pardon on Repentance, as proclaimed by the prophet Ezekiel, and confirmed by the New Testament	119

	Page
Articles 9 and 15 of the General Baptist Confession flatly contradict the prophet Ezekiel .	121
The absurdities and blasphemies involved in the allegation of inability to keep the commandments	123
The horrible sentiments of Luther and Calvin, and of the late Rev. Mr. Vaughan, of Leicester, on this subject	133
The Baptists insist that there is one command which can and must be kept.....	135
Salvation by faith alone incompatible with moral responsibility .	136
Sensible conversion at a particular time considered ..	138
That the profession of being real and vital Christians, and affecting great love to God and souls, is a species of vain and unprofitable boasting incompatible with Christian humility	140
The true nature of love to God, as defined by the Bible, contrasted with an unreal and self-excited love to God	141
Religious experience, as commonly professed, contrasted with real Christian experience, and shewn to be spurious.....	147
The religious happiness felt by an individual no proof of his doctrine being true	153
The Quaker doctrine of the sensible guidance of the Holy Spirit examined, and illustrated by a quotation from the journal of George Fox	155
Article 16 of the General Baptist Confession, in its definition of the elect and the reprobate, exhibits a specimen of the bigotry of solifidians	164
The salvation of the virtuous heathen provided for in Scripture, notwithstanding the statements to the contrary at Missionary Meetings	167
A quotation of the particulars said to be essential to saving faith, and without the belief of which the most virtuous of men are said to be in a state of condemnation equally with the most wicked: these particulars shewn to be impossible to be really believed ...	169
The common doctrine of the imputation of the merits of Christ both impossible and unscriptural	171
The contradictions and absurdities circulated by the Trinitarian "Religious Tract Society"	172
The case of the "penitent thief" on the cross considered, and shewn to afford no argument whatever for the efficacy of death-bed repentances	173
Article 7 of the General Baptist Confession concerning the fallen angels examined: the possession of divine attributes, and thus	

	Page
divinity, is as commonly attributed to the Devil as to the Son of God	175
The common idea examined, that mankind will be judged twice over, first as to their souls only, and afterwards as to their souls and bodies together : Article 23 of the General Baptist Confession cited	179
The true nature of the last Judgment stated, and the supposed future destruction of the earth shewn to be unscriptural	182
Characteristic features of the lovers of mystery	184
Luther's opinion that faith is acceptable because it is unintelligible, contrasted with the testimony of Scripture	188
The diversity of belief concerning the Object of worship amongst the General Baptists	189
No essential difference between Arianism and Unitarianism	190
The Unitarian belief described more particularly	191
The moral character of Unitarians and the moral tendency of their practical principles acknowledged	192
The disingenuous interpretation and violent wresting of the Scriptures amongst Unitarians, contrasted with the fair and reverential interpretation of them by the New Christian church.....	194
The Unitarian view of the demoniacal possessions examined	196
A Unitarian minister confesses that he does not understand Christianity	198
Unitarians averse to believing in the existence of good and evil spirits, as testified in Scripture	199
Unitarians profess to reverence Jesus Christ while their description of Him implies that He was nothing more nor less than an arrogant pretender	200
Unitarian Freethinkers; their aversion to public worship, and their use of discussions instead, in their Sunday assemblies	201
Further description of this sect <i>in a Note</i>	202
A general moral declension exists in the Christian world	203
That the character of a Scripture interpretation commonly depends upon the moral principles of the interpreter	206
The state of mind during the reading of the Scriptures by Trinitarians, Unitarians, and New Church Christians, as induced by their respective doctrines	208
Statement of Scripture difficulties.....	209
The Doctrines of the New Christian Church described, and their peculiar excellences stated	220

All Scripture difficulties obviated by the opening of the spiritual sense of the Word.....	225
Trinitarian sects unite to vilify and misrepresent the New Christian Church and her Doctrines.....	226
The objection against these Doctrines because they are called " <i>New</i> " considered	229
Old Paradoxes and New Truths contrasted	230
Unitarians, after rejecting Trinitarian interpretations of certain passages, leave the passages themselves uninterpreted, or else explain away their meaning	259
Unitarians and Trinitarians while they acknowledge certain declarations of Scripture to be authentic entirely neglect the obligations they involve.....	260
Trinitarians and Unitarians' favourite passages contrasted	261
If Trinitarians and Unitarians were each to erase the passages from which they deduce no doctrine, they would together obliterate all that is revealed concerning the Lord our Saviour ...	262
Doctor Watts's prayer on the subject of the Trinity, in which he implies that both Trinitarian and Unitarian deductions from Scripture are unsatisfactory	265
The New Christian Church equally values and perfectly harmonizes all declarations of Scripture ...	266
The peaceful death of Job Abbott, and his dying testimony to the doctrines of the New Christian Church	268
Extracts from Job Abbott's papers	269

APPENDIX.

Observations and propositions designed as an Antidote to the bigotry and intolerance which necessarily arise from a confirmed belief in the doctrine of salvation by faith only	283
A brief Account of EMANUEL SWEDENBORG	293