

## Recommendation

Reader: The great Work of them who are Ambassadors for Christ, to beseech men in his stead, to be reconciled unto God, is to reveal the Will and Love of the Father, in making him to be sin for us, who knew no sin, that we might be made the Righteousness of God in him. The manifestation of the Excellency, Fullness, Sufficiency, and Absolute Preeminence of that Righteousness, so wrought out, from the Council of the will of God, dispensed in a Covenant of Grace, is that, which in the pursuit, and discharge of the Trust committed to them, that they chiefly, through the strength of God, do, or ought to lift up themselves unto. In this Labor of the Gospel, hath the Author of the ensuing Treatise, evinced his Fellowship and Communion, by the travel of his mind, {accompanied with those advantages of Abilities, and Learning, which make such undertakings acceptable, and useful} which he hath laid out therein. The persons, occasion, and other circumstances, related unto, in this Discourse, I am utterly unacquainted withal, but only by the light which concerning them, it self holds out unto me; which being not a sufficient bottom for a Judgment of this notoriety, I am not called, no more than desired to deliver my thoughts concerning them. Every man's work shall be made manifest, for the day shall declare it, because it shall be revealed by fire, and the fire shall try every man's work, of what sort it is. Of the Matter treated on herein, various are the thoughts of learned Men; those doubtless seem to have the advantage, who walk in a professed compliance with the design of God, to give the Son of his Love, with his Love and Grace in him, the Preeminence in all things. To deliver my Thoughts concerning the severals, argued, and disputed in this Treatise, neither the minute of time, whereunto for this expression of myself I am confined, will admit me, nor doth my present aim require. {Especially considering that I have at large delivered myself to the main Head of the whole, in my Book of the Perseverance of the Saints, and Answer to Mr. John Goodwin on that subject, now almost cleared off the Press.} For the present, I shall only say, that there being too great evidence of very welcome entertainment, and acceptance, given by many to an almost pure Socinian Justification, and Exposition of the Covenant of Grace, even amongst them, into whose hearts God seems to have shined, in some measure, to give the light of the knowledge of his glory, in the face of Jesus Christ, all solid, learned, sober, endeavors, for the Vindication of the Absoluteness, Freedom, Independency, and Preeminence of that Grace in Jesus Christ, whereby we are saved, will doubtless find acceptance with the Children of Gospel-Wisdom, and all that love the glory of Him that bought us. Amongst such Labors and Endeavors {Christian Reader} I commend to thy consideration, the ensuing Treatise, and commit thee to the Lord.

John Owen, Westminster, Nov.7, 1653.