

CONFESSION OF FAITH.

CHAPTER 2.-Of God, and of the Holy Trinity.

I. There is but one only,¹ living, and true God:² who is infinite in Being and Perfection,³ a most pure Spirit,⁴ invisible,⁵ without body, parts,⁶ or passions,⁷ immutable,⁸ immense,⁹ eternall,¹⁰ incomprehensible,¹¹ almighty,¹² most wise,¹³ most holy,¹⁴ most free,¹⁵ most absolute,¹⁶ working all things according to the Counsell of his own immutable and most righteous will,¹⁷ for his own glory;¹⁸ most loving,¹⁹ gracious, mercifull, long-suffering, abundant in goodnesse and truth, forgiving iniquity, transgression, and sin,²⁰ the rewarder of them that diligently seek him;²¹ and withall, most just and terrible in his judgements,²² hating all sin,²³ and who will by no means clear the guilty.²⁴

Question 1.—*Is there but one only the true, and living God?*

Answer—Yes. Deut. 6:4; 1 Thess. 1:9. Thus do the heathen and Tritheists err maintaining there are more gods than one, the living and true God. They are confuted for the following reasons: Because, 1.) Though there be a plurality of Persons mentioned in Scripture, yet it is ever God as One, as is evident from the first chapter of the Revelation [1:8], and the last [22:8]. For if that God have in himself all perfections, there can be no perfection beside him, and so no God, but this one true God. For if there were, He should not be God, because not infinite in perfection. And if God be infinite in perfection, then

¹ Deut. 6: 4; 1 Cor. 8:4, 6.

² 1 Thess. 1:9; Jer. 10:10.

³ Job 11:7-9; 26:14.

⁴ John 4:24.

⁵ 1 Tim. 1:17.

⁶ Deut. 4:15, 16; John 4:24; Luke 24:39.

⁷ Acts 14:11, 15.

⁸ Jas. 1:17; Mal. 3:6.

⁹ 1 Kings 8:27; Jer. 23:23, 24.

¹⁰ Ps.90:2; 1 Tim. 1:17.

¹¹ Ps. 145:3.

¹² Gen. 17:1; Rev. 4:8.

¹³ Rom. 16:27.

¹⁴ Isa. 6:3; Rev. 4:8.

¹⁵ Ps. 115:3.

¹⁶ Ex. 3:14.

¹⁷ Eph. 1:11.

¹⁸ Prov. 16:4; Rom. 11:36.

¹⁹ 1 John 4:8, 16.

²⁰ Ex. 34:6, 7.

²¹ Heb. 11:6.

²² Neh. 9:32, 33.

²³ Ps. 5:5, 6.

²⁴ Nah. 1:2, 3; Ex. 34:7.

surely there cannot be a multiplicity of Gods, seeing that which is infinite, in that respect cannot be multiplied, 1 Cor. 8:4-6. 2.) It is evident from Deut. 32:39, where the Lord speaks of himself, "I, even I am he, and there is no God with me." *cf.* Isa. 43:11. 3.) Because, God is Omnipotent, and so cannot be hindered by any other, in his working, Rev. 15:3. 4.) It is evident from Christ's words to the young man of the Gospel, "there is none good but one, that is God," Matt. 19:17. 5.) From the words of Hannah, in her Song, 1 Sam. 2:2, "for there is none beside thee (O Lord) neither is there any Rock, beside our God." 6.) From the Testimony of the Apostle, 1 Cor. 8:6, to us, he says, "there is but one God." 7.) From what Christ said to one of the Scribes, "the Lord our God is one Lord," Mark 12:29. 8.) Because, God is a most absolute, and most perfect Being, and so beyond all other things, One, John 10:29; Ps. 145:3; 147:5. 9.) From the words of Paul to Timothy, 1 Tim. 2:5. 10.) Because, this one blessed God, is most absolutely sufficient, and furnished with infinite Power, and Wisdom, for the production, conservation, and ruling all things in Heaven and in Earth, Gen. 17:1; Rom. 16:27; Isa. 6:3; Rev. 4:8. 11.) Because, he is of all things outside of himself, the first and supreme cause, from which all the creatures visible, or invisible, have their rise and beginning. 12.) It is evident, lastly, from the testimonies of the most wise Heathens [*e.g.*, Plato, Socrates, Aristotle, &c.], who have been necessitated to acknowledge, but one God only.

Question 2.—*Is God infinite in being and perfection?*

Answer—Yes. Job 11:7-9. Thus do the Socinians err denying the infinity of God. They are confuted for the following reasons: Because 1.) God has a being from himself, and all things have their dependence from him, and therefore there can be nothing, by which he is limited, Rom. 11:36. 2.) God is everywhere present, in heaven, and in earth, and beyond the Heavens, Jer. 23:24; Isa. 66:1. 3.) The Scripture affirms, that the perfection of God, is the highest, is unmeasurable, unchangeable, and infinitely great, beyond all creatures, Job 26:14; Ps. 145:3. 4.) To the same purpose are those Scriptures which compare the Creator in his infinite perfection to the creation—which cannot agree with a finite nature, Isa. 40:12, 15, 17.

Question 3.—*Is the only living and true God, a most pure Spirit, invisible, without a body and parts?*

Answer—Yes. John 4:24; 1 Tim. 1:17; Deut. 4:15, 16; Luke 24:39. Because, 1.) God is the Father of spirits, Heb. 12:9. 2.) God is invisible, 1 Tim. 1:17. 3.) God is like unto no bodily image, nor can he be represented by any image, or corporeal likeness, Isa. 40:18; Acts 17:29. Likewise, we deny that God is possessed of passions or feelings, Acts 14:11, 15.

Question 4.—*Is this God most holy, most free, most absolute, working all things according to the counsel of his own immutable and most righteous will, for his own glory?*

Answer—Yes. Ps. 115:3; Ex. 3:14; Eph. 1:11; Prov. 16:4; Rom. 11:36. Thus do the Arminians, Pelagians and Papists err denying the most holy, free, absolute will of God to work all things according to the counsel of his own immutable and most righteous will, for his own glory.

Question 5.—*What are some of the qualities of the Deity?*

Answer—This Godhead, or supreme Deity, which is the true God, Jer. 10:10; is: 1.) Most loving, 1 John 4:8, 16. 2.) Gracious and merciful to forgive sin, Ex. 34:6, 7. 3.) A rewarder of all that seek him, Heb. 11:6. 4.) Most just and terrible in his judgments, Neh. 9:32, 33. 5.) Hating all sin, Ps. 5:5, 6. 6.) Who will nowise clear the guilty, Nah. 1:2, 3.