

Genesis 18th Chap. v. 19. I know him &
when G. was about to destroy Sodom and
Gomorrah, he communicated his intention
to Abraham as he resided not far from
these Cities, and had a very near friend
relative living in Sodom, the seed of
Abraham was to be a blessing to all
nations - and he is called the Father of
the faithful, and the Friend of God; hence
the Almighty paid particular Attention
to Abraham - The Angels who were to
execute the Divine Vengeance upon Sodom
& G. accompanied by the Lord of Glory
called on their way at Abraham's Tent
and found him, sitting at the Door -
The L^d said Shall I hide from Abraham
the thing which I do -

no I will not, for I know him, for how
faithful he is in the Discharge of all his
Duties to me, and since he so delights
to honour me, I also will delight to
honour him. The Duties for the Performance
of which Abraham was so highly
commended were of a domestic
nature - I know him says G. He eminently
excelled in the Discharge of what may
be called Vanity Religion - He maintained
a little Church of faithful worshippers
in his own House - he had erected a
Sacred Altar there, and with his
Vanity called upon the name of
the Lord his God. His Desires began
G. as well as himself & wrought ^{ref} ~~ref~~

2
This being of such great Importance to the
maintenance of Piety in the C. I shall
propose him as an example to you
and with it view shall shew
1st The use we sh^d make of Influence
2^{ly} The Benefits arising from a right
use of it -
1st Influence of whatever kind it be
sh^d be Diligently improved - 1st to
enforce of Communion of God, whom
we sh^d at ~~all~~ times obey - as nothing sh^d
be of so great Importance in our Eyes,
as his Honour and glory - to worship
there in the midst of and company of
sh^d be our Chief Aim - The Power
of is given us, of whatever kind it be

is bestowed for this End, and to God alone
we are responsible for the use of it.
Magistrates are invested with it by him
and are therefore called his ministers;
and they bear not the sword in vain. Hence
all are commanded to obey those who have
the rule over them; as they are not a terror
to the Lord ^{but} to the evil. Masters in like
manner bear the Divine Authority
and are his Representatives in the Church
dit. Hence St. Paul exhorts servants to
obey in all things their masters according to
the Lord, not with Eye Service as men
pleasers, but in singleness of heart fearing
God. The true End of all Authority is
to encourage, virtue, to repress vice, to
enforce the observance of Justice & Equity

and to make men keep the way of the
Lord, as Abraham did. This I say is the
true End of Authority; whether it be
Official, or personal, civil or religious.
In particular, every thing of dishonouring
note if it is injurious to Society ~~must~~
must be opposed in determined vigour.
The ^{violation} ~~Prohibition~~ of the Sabbath, and all
kinds of Prophaneness, must be opposed.
The violation of the Sabbath is a ^{common} ~~very~~
sin amongst us, many imagine that
it is a sin of little consequence. but there is
no sin with all its attendant evil, ruin
more souls so much as this. If men
do not shew the Sabbath in giving us
Instruction in Righteousness, they
are rejecting the Council of God against
that cross souls

by neglecting the Divine ordinances,
and exposing themselves to the power of
the Devil - God would not have comman-
ded us to remember the Sabbath Day, &
to keep it holy, unless the observance of it
had been for the good & benefit, the
happiness of man individually, and the
Honor of ~~the~~ the Divine Government -
All the maxims, and habits of the Ch.
as far as they are contrary to the commands
of God, are to be held up to decided reprobation - The Gospel too which above all things
exalts the Honor of God, must be ^{maintained} ~~continued~~
inculcated, and enforced. The utmost possible
Omnipotence should be made to spread
the knowledge of a crucified Saviour
in whom all the fulness of the Godhead dwells

and in whose face all the glory of the
Godhead shines.
Again our Influence should also be used to
promote the best interest of man. where
this is our only state of Existence, it is the
sufficient to use our Authority ^{so} as not
to promote of present Happiness of mankind.
but men are immortal beings, and their
Chief concern in this Life is to prepare
for a better - To this should all our Instructions
and Exhortations tend - we sh^d. as far as
we are able make them know the
way of the Lord, more especially the
way in which they may find exemption
to ruin in the last day. with this
view we should exhort, and require
them to attend upon the ordinances.

of Religion - I know Abraham, that
he will command his Children, this is
not the duty of Masters only but of
all according to their Ability, and the measure
of Influence which they possess. Parents should
pay that attention to their Children, Mothers
to their Servants. They should not be
content to see those whom G^d hath
put under their Care prospering in
a worldly view; but should be anxious
for the good of their Servants, praying
for them and praying it in, and using
every Effort for their eternal welfare.
Of course the nearer any are to us, the
stronger Claim they have upon us for
our Exertions in their behalf; hence our
domestic duties are of the first importance

as the temporal, and eternal Happiness
of our Children & Servants depends so much
upon their acquaintance with & knowledge
of true Religion - Having now shewn
the use we sh^d make of the Influence
we possess over those under our Authority
we come in the second place to
consider the benefit of using it aright -
This benefit is very great, first to those
who exercise it - So Abraham found it in
a very peculiar manner - He was approv^d
of G^d and had of most astonishing Testimony
of divine Approbation given unto him.
I know him says God, and he shall know
if I know him. There could not be a
stronger Testimony of the Divine regard
to Abraham, than his informing him
what his Intentions were respecting

Sodom. and his saving Lot and his
two Daughters at Sodom. Request.
from the Destruction of those Cities.

Abraham knew Lot was a righteous man,
he had lived in his family, and therefore
he prayed, that God w^d not destroy the
righteous wth wicked, and therefore the
Angels were sent to conduct him and
his two Daughters from Sodom. God bears
the same affectionate regard to his faithful
People now, if he did to Abraham. He
never forsakes them that bear him - say
ye who have endeavoured to live to his
glory, has he not favoured you with his
visits, and lifted upon you the light
of his countenance; notwithstanding all
your iniquities, and backslidings?
Has he not shed abroad his love on

Hearts ⁶ your. and by the witness of his Spirit
enabled you to cry Abba Father? Yes
his promise to you is this - He shall call
upon me, and I will answer him:
I will be to him in trouble, I will deliver
him, and honour him, with long life
will I satisfy him; and show him my
salvation - This I say is God's promise to
all his faithful People in every age
and the whole of it shall be fulfilled to
you who believe: for faithful is he who
hath called you, who also will do it -
Again the promise is not only great to those
who exercise their influence aright, but
also to those, over whom it is exercised -
It is said by the sacred Persian train of
a child in the way if he sh^d go and when
he is told he will not depart but it

This is not to be understood as an universal
Truth; for it is in many instances contra-
dicted by Experience. but the Scriptures show
if it is true as a general Principle; and
therefore there is ample ground to hope for
its Accomplishment thro' the Divine blessing.
we will instance a few Examples. God had
promised to Abraham if he sh^d have a son
in whom all nations sh^d be blessed - when
Isaac was born Abraham was 100 years
old - This Child he dedicated to the Lord for
his birth - As soon as his infant mind was
able to comprehend any thing of Divine
Knowledge, Abraham attended to his instruction
and improvement - He attended his pious
father when he built his sacred Altars
offered his sacrifices and called upon his
God - so that he was very early taught
the great Doctrine of the Atonement -

Abraham took great Delight in Isaac. He
was his beloved son. Abraham on his Account
was called upon to sustain a very severe
Trial. we are informed, God appeared unto
Abraham and said unto him - Take thy
son Isaac - thy only son Isaac whom thou
lovest. This awful Sacrifice and the circum-
stances attending it, made such an Impres-
sion upon Isaac's mind, and recreated
to him such a view of Gods gracious
Provisions to man, that they accompan-
ied him to the grave. His religious
Character is one of the most precious
in all the sacred Volume. His father
had instructed him in all the great
mysteries of the Gospel. and as he saw
Christ's Day, he pointed out his Atonement
to his son Isaac, and made him glad

also. Abraham had the Happiness before
his death of seeing his son married to
a pious woman, and surrounded to every
temporal and spiritual blessing. The
S^r appeared unto Isaac after his Father's
death. And said I am the God of Abrah-
ham thy Father, fear not for I am with
thee I will bless thee, for my servant
Abraham's sake. and thy seed. In process
of time Isaac was born unto Isaac as he
grew up he possessed the same pious spirit
as his grandfather Abraham & his Father
Isaac. which made his Mother rejoice in him.
but an unexpected difference arose between
Isaac and his Mother Isaac which brought
the ^{Abraham} ~~the~~ ^{Abraham} upon Isaac & Rebekah. Isaac
had expressed a determination to kill
Jacob - and in order to save his life he
was compelled to leave his Father's House

This was a sore trial to both his Father
and his Mother. ^{as well as his wife} At parting Isaac said
unto Jacob, with many tears, God almighty
bless thee, and multiply thee, and
give thee, the blessing of Abraham and
to thy seed. no doubt, when Jacob took
his leave of his pious Father, and Mother
he was overwhelmed with the deepest
distress. But the fervent prayer of Isaac
was soon answered. Jacob at the end of
his days journey weary of travelling and
oppressed with grief laid down upon the
ground to rest, and took a stone for his
pillow. and fell asleep. and he dreamed
that he saw the S^r stand above in the Heavens
who said I am of G^d of thy Father Ab. &
of thy Mother Isaac. behold I am with thee
and will keep thee in all places whither
soever thou goest, and will bring thee again
into this land, and will not leave thee

This was an exceeding great, and precious
promise to Jacob under his distress.
when he awoke out of sleep, he said
surely the Lord is in this place & I knew it
not. He was greatly encouraged by this divine
communication - and he vowed a vow
saying. &c. Here we see the blessed effect of
true Piety upon the mind of this young man
under the most afflictive circumstances.
we see how wonderfully God had blessed the
pious Instructions, and Education of Abraham
to Isaac, and of Isaac to Jacob. when
Jacob arrived at his journey's end, he hired
himself as a Shepherd, to labor his mother's
brother - an hard-hearted, covetous, and
unfeeling master. In this situation he
lived for upwards of twenty years, and
suffered every hardship of nature could
bear - on the day says he the draught
consumed me, and the frost by night
so I sleep shivered in mine eyes

It was true Religion, that supported Jacob
under all his trials. Jacob lived 147 years
we may say that one continued season of trial
and affliction - his only consolation was derived
from the knowledge of the only truly
whom his Father had enjoined upon him
to serve - when Jacob was upon his dying
bed he had his twelve sons collected around
it, that they might receive his final blessing
as well as Joseph's two sons. and he blessed
Joseph. and said, God before whom my
Fathers Abraham & Isaac did walk; the
God which led me all my life long
unto this day, bless the Lads; and when Jacob
had made an end of commending his
sons, as his Father Abraham had com-
mended his Household and his Children
he gathered up his feet into the bed and
yielded up the Ghost. This was a happy
and glorious Death - we cannot tell in the

I am to conjecture what became of these
 three Palamucks. Al. J. & J. Mores informs
 us, what G. said to him respecting these Jews
 now. I am the G. of A. J. - and can tell you
 has told us himself they went to
 Heaven when they died. when speaking to
 the Jews relative to the Day of Judgment
 he tells them, then, there shall be weepers
 & I might bring forward many instances
 which are recorded in Scripture of the
 advantages derived from young persons being
 being taught to remember & use it necessary
 Parents and Guardians and Masters may always
 look with Confidence up to G. for his
 blessing upon their Instructions. we
 can have no doubt, but Isaac was perceptive
 for Isaac to hear G. and work righteously
 as he was for Jacob. yet their Characters
 and Conduct were very different for many
 years - After 20 years about. Jacob returned

to the Lord of Canaan. and his Mother was
reconciled to him, which gave Jacob the
greatest Pleasure. They were both present
when their Father Isaac died, and attended
to his Funeral. It is probable that the Instructions
of Isaac might in time have made some
favourable Impressions upon Esau's mind
and induced him to show kindness to his Brother
Jacob - as we hear no more of any
Differences between them - Jacob when
he died left a pious Seed behind him, his
beloved Son Joseph. Jacob had paid
particular attention to the religious Education
of Joseph. and he reared him as his
first born. This Circumstance induced Jacob
to pay more particular attention to
him than to his other Sons - so that he
loved him, and determined to visit
him, when an opportunity offered

at the moment when they were about
to murder him, ~~and~~ some merchants
came up, and they sold him to them
as a slave. Joseph was then about 14
years old - He was carried down into
Egypt and resold to an officer of the
Pharaoh's household - Joseph's afflictions must
now have been very great, being torn
away from his father and his friends
and situated amongst Heathens. Here his
Religion was put to the test - His masters
wife cast her Eye upon Joseph, and tempted
him from day to day to gratify her
lustful wishes - The only reply Joseph
made her was, how can I do this? he
Joseph's answer was attended with the
most serious consequences to himself -
This wicked woman accused him, ~~and~~

of making an attempt to violate her Person
on this Charge he was committed to
Prison where he lay confined for 19 years.
but it is said the Pharaoh was told. he still
retained his Pious Character, and the
Consolations of Religion supported him
under all his sufferings. He afterwards
became the greatest blessing to his pious
father and ^{to} all his Brethren, and to Gods
Church and People, as long as he lived -
Jacob had not heard of Joseph for 20 years
and supposed he had been dead - but when
he heard he was still alive, his Heart was
filled with Joy - Joseph is still alive I
will tell you. Thus we see what blessed Effects
attended upon Abraham's Conduct, who
commended his Children and his Servants
able to him, if they should keep the way of God.
The pious Parents do not always see the

immediate Punishment & their Instructions, yet
G. after blessing them, before or after their Death
I shall mention only two Examples. ~~These~~
Hezekiah was King of Judea - a man eminent
for Piety; condensed all his Authority & Influence
to promote true Religion amongst his
Subjects. Manasseh is ~~born~~ Son, was Heir
to the Crown at his Fathers Death. when
his Father died he ascended the Throne -
tho he had such a pious Father, he was an
extremely wicked young man - He overturned
the worship of the true God, which his Father
had established - filled the Temple with Gods
of the Heathens - and shed much innocent
Blood, and brought the greatest national
Calamities upon his People. At length
Jerusalem was besieged by the King
of Assyria, and taken - Manasseh
was made Prisoner, and carried in
Chains to Babylon. and when he was
in affliction

This being of such great Importance
to the ~~reformation~~ maintenance of Piety in us
& I shall propose him as an example
to you, and with it I will show
1st the use we should make of Influence
2^d The perils attending ~~being~~ ~~being~~
it conveyed
1st Influence of whatever kind it be sh^d be
religiously improved - 1st to enforce the
Commands of G. nothing should be
of such Importance in our Eyes as
the Honor and Glory of G. worshiped
these should be our chief Aim - The
Power that is given us, of whatever kind
it be is bestowed for this end

he brought the Lord his God, and humbled
himself greatly before the God of his
father - and prayed unto him and he
was intreated of him and heard his suppli-
cation. no doubt but his pious father had
offered up many an ardent Prayer for
him before his death, which were not
answered before his ^{deplorable} death - Menepek
now remembered his father's instructions
and found his only consolation in the duty
of trouble in humbling himself before his
father's God, and seeking for pardon at
the footstool of divine mercy, - ^{where he obtained it} - we
then read of God bestowing upon the children
of pious parents ^{this heavenly blessing} for their fathers sake -
I shall only mention one ~~instance~~
instance more, which is the Prodigal
son, no common character in every
Age - our Lord tells us there was a certain man
who had two sons & the younger said to
his father -