

the *divine government*, as if they had adjusted every wheel, and numbered every cog. Surely such motley things as I am noticing, could never emanate from wisdom and prudence; and if God is the author of such a system, it must be far from prejudicing us in favour of his qualifications for government. But,

Observe, 3. The word atonement, signifies to *pacify, reconcile, bring together, make friends, &c.* and if divided into syllables immediately presents the idea; thus atone *at-one*, atonement *at-one-ment*, plainly denotes an expiation which pacifies the offended party, and unite together both the offended and the offender in terms of friendship. And here let it be observed, this was effected, 1. by *covering, burying, drowning* the atoner in a sea of boiling wrath. This seems to be strongly indicated by the lavers and brazen sea in Solomon's temple. This brazen sea was for the priest to wash in, previous to his offering sacrifice, and no doubt was intended to point out the purity and innocence of our great High Priest: while the lavers were to wash the sacrifices before they were offered. Now a sea is generally the emblem of affliction, and the hieroglyphical representations confirm the idea. We are told, Solomon "graved cherubs, lions and palm-trees, according to the *proportion* of every one, or, according to the *pouring out, or exertion* of every one; i. e. the condition in which they exert themselves. "The brazen sea," says Julius Bates, "being a sea of affliction, had rows of bulls upon it, \aleph is to mark *inquisition* in order to *punish*: to enquire diligently, search out, or *examine*. Thence it signifies the *morning*, and is a name adapted to the *bull*, as an emblem of *wrath*." With the bulls upon the brazen sea were the gourds of the *wild vine*, which obnoxious plant contains a *heat* so intense as to form a *deadly poison*. The *lion*, was no doubt an emblem of the Lord Jesus, and is derived from the word under notice, which signifies to cover, or the *coverer*. The *palm-trees in bloom*, are emblems of conquest and victory, and designed, to point out the ever-blooming victory of the lion of the tribe of Judah. Its standing on *twelve oxen*, with their faces