

A Guide to Goe
to God
or
An Explanation of
the Perfect Patterne of Prayer,
the Lords Prayer

William Gouge



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John Bower
Chad Van Dixhoorn

192.
A
G V I D E
T O G O E T O
G O D :

O R,
A N E X P L A N A T I O N
of the Perfect Patterne of Prayer,
T H E L O R D S P R A Y E R.
[* *]

By W I L L I A M G O V G E, B. D.
Minister of Gods Word in *Black-Fraces*
L O N D O N.

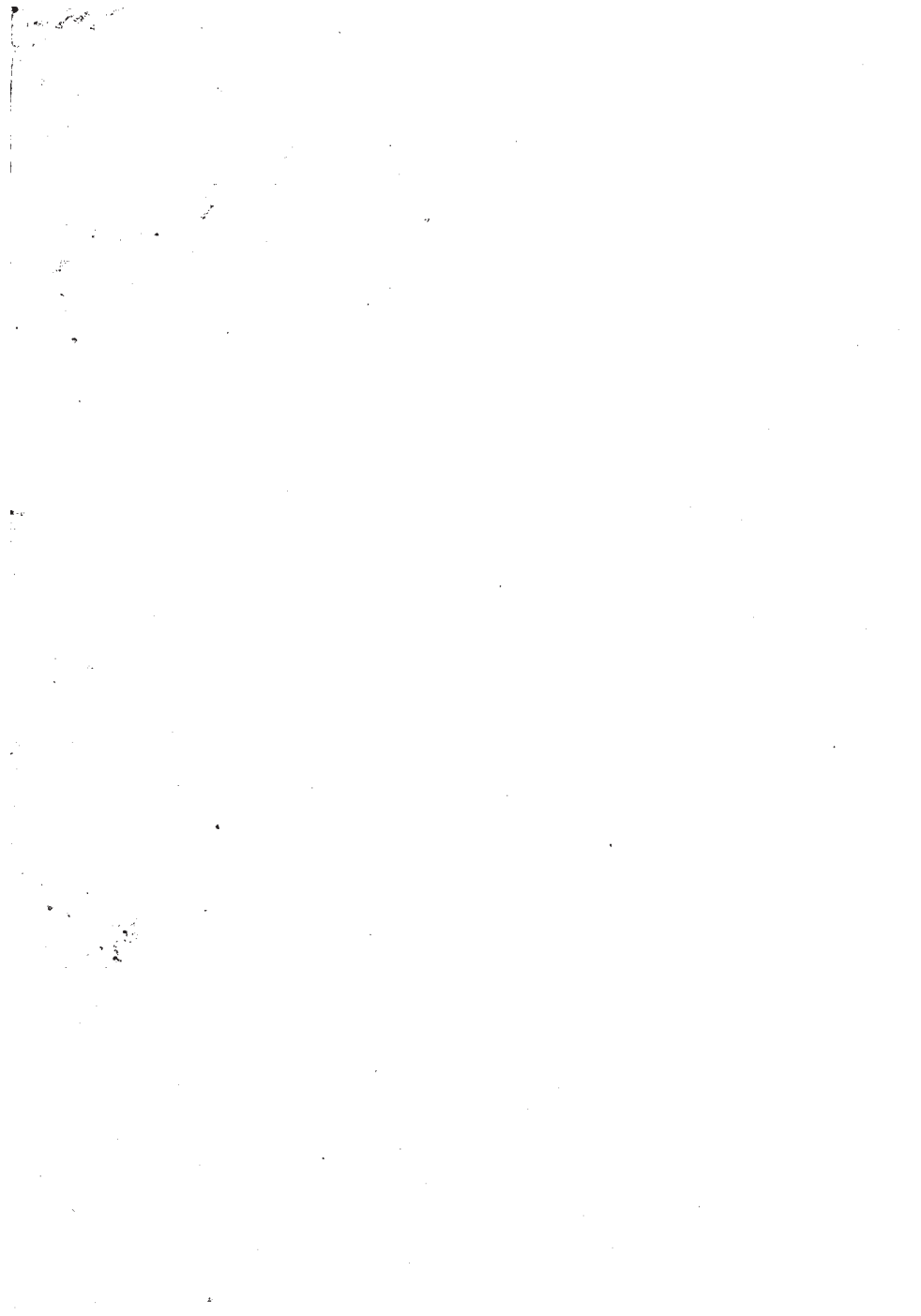
I S A. 30. 21.

This is the way : walke in it.



A T L O N D O N,
Printed by G. M. and R. B. for Edward Brewster, and are
to be sold at his shop neere the great North dore of St.
Pauls Church, at the signe of the Bible.

1 6 2 6.





TO THE TRVLY
HONOVRED S^r. IAMES
FVLLERTON Knight, Groome of the
stool to the Kings most Excellent Maiestie,
and Gentleman of his Maiesties
BED-CHAMBER.

AND TO THE RIGHT
Honourable his most worthy Consort the
LADIE BRUCE, Baronesse of Kinlosse,
Grace on Earth, Glorie in Heauen.

I*t is the nature of some Soile
long to retaine good corne
with the life and heart of it
in the bowels thereof, before
it put it forth. Such a Soile
hath my soule shewed her selfe
to be. The solid seed of your
Honours Goodnesse hath been plentifully cast on
me euer since you dwelt where I exercised my Mini-
sterie. The proper crop expected from the seed of
Goodnesse, is Gratefulnessse. This crop hath not
as*

THE EPISTLE

as yet growne to the desired measure of maturitie. Nor forgetfulnesse nor vngratefulnessse hath beene any cause thereof, but want of Opportunitie, which being at length offered, it doth now put forth this fruite of Gratitude, which in all humilitie is presented to your honourable acceptance.

T Here are (worthy Sir JAMES) publicke and priuate respects which induce mee thus openly to make reuerend mention of your Honourable Name. Publicke, for which all the Kings Subiects are bound to blesse God for you, Your faithfull seruice to the Kings most Excellent MAIESTIE from his Childhood to this day. Priuate, in mine owne, and childrens behalfe, whom you haue for euer in all dutie bound to you. Besides, your profound & sound iudgement your much & great experience

T Here are (good MADAME) generall and particular respects which moue me by this meanes to manifest my humble bounden dutie to your Honour. In generall your true Pietie and holy Deuotion to Godwards, your loue of his Word, and of his Ministers. In particular your good respect of my Ministrie, and of my person for my Ministry sake, your entire loue, of my deare deceased wife, of blessed memory, and the many euidences whereby the truth of these haue beene demonstrated: All

DEDICATORIE.

in controuersall and
 case-Diuinitie, in mat-
 ters of Reputation and
 deuotion, (*Διὰ γὰρ τὴν*
ἐξῆτα ἀιοθητῆα γυγυμνασ-
μένα ἔχεις ὡρὸς διακείσιν
καλῶ τε καὶ κακῶ.)
 though they doe some-
 what discourage me from
 presenting so impolished
 an Explanatiō of so per-
 fect a pattern of Prayer
 to such an Eagle-eye as
 can soone discern and dis-
 couer the defects and de-
 formities thereof : yet
 they doe also encourage me
 to seeke such a Patron,
 that through the Patro-
 nage of so iudicious a
 Censor, it may bee en-
 boldened to lie open to
 the view of all sorts of
 Readers. Wherefore not
 the Māner of explaining
 this perfect Prayer, but
 the Matter explained; not

which enduce me to testi-
 fie my humble thankeful-
 nesse to your Honour, in
 this manner, that it may
 be the more recall, & proue
 some helpe and furthe-
 rance to your Pious De-
 uotion : which may at
 this time bee some-what
 the more seasonable, be-
 cause of that long weake-
 nesse of bodie wherewith
 it hath pleased the wise
 God, your beauenly Fa-
 ther, to visite you. To take
 occasion from the weake-
 nesse of the bodie to vse
 meanes of strengthening
 the spirit, is a blessed ad-
 uantage. This maketh
 Gods fatherly chastise-
 ment to turne to our pro-
 fit, and, through a true ap-
 prehension and due consi-
 deration thereof, it wor-
 keth in vs an hearty and
 earnest desire of going to

THE EPISTLE, &c.

any worth of the worke-
man, but the goodnesse of
your owne disposition,
(which maketh you rea-
die on all occasions to doe
all good offices of cour-
tesie, and kindnesse)
promise a fauourable ac-
ceptance of that which is
humbly commended to
your Patronage.

God: for direction where-
in, Behold here an helpe,
A GUIDE TO GOD
TO GOD, which desi-
reth as an Handmaid to
attend your Ladiship, and
to bee entertained by you,
that shee may be the more
ready at hand to Guide
you in your way to
God.

Vouchsafe therefore, I beseech you, graciously to
accept this small testimonie of gratitude here tende-
red to your Honours by him, that being vtterly vna-
ble of himselfe to returne any recompence for your
many great kindnesse, yet exceedingly desirous that
they may be abundantly recompenced, ceaseth not to
solicite the Throne of Grace (where plentie of all
blesing is to bee had) for your Honours present and
future happinesse in this and the other world, and in
that respect is and will be, as in all dutie he acknow-
geth himselfe most bound,

Your Honours daily Oratour

WILLIAM GOUGE.