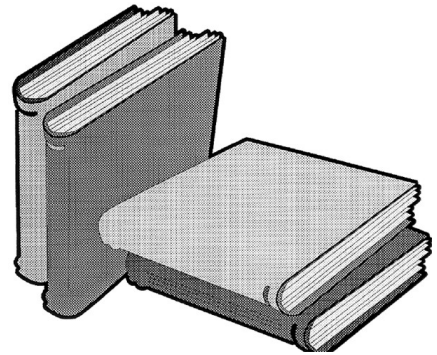


The Rock and Pit

*Look unto the rock whence ye are hewn,
and to the hole of the pit whence ye are digged.*

Isa 51:1

Selections from the Christian's heritage in print,
collected by Dean Brown



Issue 3004

Dedicating A Book Titled, A Remedy for Wandering Thoughts in the Worship of God.

These first fruits I humbly lay at thy blessed footstool, O God, being ambitious of no patron but thyself; for thou alone can attest the sincerity of my aim herein, which I will plead with thee for the imbecilities thereof. ...

Against thee, thee only, have I offended by my distractions, and done these evils in thy sight; and therefore am bound to seek the destruction of them in all the world for thy sake. Thou hast so infinitely obliged the unworthy writer of these lines, that he rejoices in this opportunity to tell thee, *That there is none in heaven or earth to be compared to thee.* Thou only canst make my endeavours herein successful, and bring that to the heart which I could only present to the ear or eye.

Unto thee, therefore, do I dedicate both this and myself, with this earnest prayer, That this Essay may both please thee and profit thy Church! That thou wouldest take this rod into thy hands, and therewith whip these buyers and sellers out of thy temple! That thy great name may hereby be magnified, though the writer's were never known! To thy heavenly blessing do I most humbly recommend this mean work and worthless workman, with a resolution to remain while I have any being.

Thine own,

RICHARD STEELE. LONDON, 1673. REPRINTED BY SPRINKLE PUBLICATIONS 1988.

Richard Steele (1629-1692) The son of a farmer. A Presbyterian in practice. A lifelong friend of Philip Henry and participated in Henry's ordination, resigned his rural church due to the Act of Uniformity of 1662 (under King Charles II), continued to preach in private after moving, arrested twice, moved again due to the Five Mile Act of 1665. By 1672 he moved to London where he spent his remaining years as a minister. Note: **Philip Henry had a son named Matthew.**

Information from Beeke and Pederson, *Meet the Puritans*, 2006.