

men shall be the better where he commeth; and so think themselves, seeing that through him, as through a golden Pipe, the Lord will bestow his blessings upon his family, and others among whom he liveth.

The arguments that concern other men, are of two sorts; the one is their Temporal estate; the other their Spiritual. Concerning the Temporal estate of those amongst whom he liveth, God will dispose of, as they dispose themselves towards *Abram*. For the Lord *will bless them*, and cause them to prosper, that seek the *blessing* and prosperity of *Abram*. And again, if they stand otherwise affected towards *Abram*, then will the Lord also set his face against them, in these words: *And I will curse them that curse thee*. So that nothing they have shall prosper, until they be gracious and favorable to *Abram*. That which concerneth their Spiritual estate, is, indeed an argument to a faithful man, stronger then chains of Adamant; Namely, that by this means, the people all abroad shall receive the grace of salvation. The thing he promiseth is salvation by the Gospel, in this word, *I will bless*. The means, is *Abram* and his seed JESUS CHRIST: in these words *in thee*. The persons, to receive benefit by him, are infinite; even all the families of *Noah*, by whom the nations of *all the earth were divided*; In these words, *And in thee, shall all the families of the earth be blessed*. This is the sense of these three verses: In which are very many excellent things to be observed, but we will only insist upon those, which are proper to our occasion, &c.

1. *Bless them that bless thee.*

2. *Curse them that curse thee.*

3. *All Nations blessed.*

#### DOCTRINES.

j<sup>o</sup>.  
*Abraham called.*  
*Matthew 1.20*  
*Numbers 12.6*

*Genesis 1.26*

*Genesis 3.23*

*Genesis 9.2, 7*

THE Lord called *Abraham* to go into another Country. There is no doubt, but that there is a double manner of calling; the one ordinary, by some known precept of the word of God: the other extraordinary when as by dream, or by vision, God requireth any duty to be done. Now if it be demanded how *Abraham* was called, to go into another Country: the answer is, both ordinarily and extraordinarily. It was a known rule of the word of God, concluded, and pronounced before the Creation, and often repeated afterwards, that man should spread abroad, &c. *and inhabit the earth, and fill it*. Hitherto belongeth that, which God said; *Let us make man in our image, and let them rule over the Fish of the Sea, and over the Fowls of the Heaven, and over the Beasts, and over ALL the earth*. Then must he replenish the earth, else can he not rule over ALL. To the same effect is that spoken of *Adam*, after his fall, that *God sent him forth of the Garden of Eden to till the earth*: so that the fall of *Adam* did not, in the least thing, cause the Lord to alter his first decree. So to *Noah* after the flood; *Bring forth fruit, and multiply, grow plentifully in the earth, and increase therein, and replenish the earth*.