Berkeley's Religion A Study in the History of Anglican Philosophy

Kenneth L. Pearce

Entertain no Opinion concerning God, that doth evidently contradict the Practice of Religion, and a good Life... Truth is most easily seen, and discern'd in those Reasonings and Opinions which tend to practice... This is universally true in all kind[s] of knowledge, but most considerable in the knowledge of God and Religion; because that knowledge is of the greatest consideration... Let us then look upon all knowledge that contradicts practice, as vain and false, because it destroys its end.

Archbishop Tillotson, Sermon on the Perfection of God

by the Knowledge of God, is not meant a barren Speculation, either of Philosophers or Scholastic Divines, nor any notional Tenets fitted to produce Disputes and Dissensions among Men; but, on the contrary, an holy practical Knowledge, which is the Source, the Root, or Principle of Peace and Union, of Faith, Hope, Charity, and universal Obedience.

Bishop Berkeley, Anniversary Sermon before the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel

Contents

Acknowledgments

Abbreviations

Preface

4	T 1 * 1 * 1		1.5	
	Latitud	linarians a	nd Dei	sts

- 1.1 Predecessors
 - 1.1.1 Richard Hooker
 - 1.1.2 Herbert of Cherbury
 - 1.1.3 Cambridge Platonism
- 1.2 The Rise of the 'Latitude-Men'
- 1.3 Tillotson, Stillingfleet, and Locke in the Restoration (1660–1683)
- 1.4 The Threat of Deism
- 1.5 High Church Critics
- 1.6 Locke and Stillingfleet after the Revolution (1689–1704)
- 1.7 Latitudinarianism and Deism
- 1.8 Berkeley as Latitudinarian

2 Faith

- 2.1 Philosophical and Theological Framework
- 2.2 Traditional Views
 - 2.2.1 Aguinas on Faith
 - 2.2.2 Religious Rationalism and the Protestant Reformation
- 2.3 Locke on Faith and Reason
- 2.4 Toland on Evidence and Authority
 - 2.4.1 Toland's Definitions
 - 2.4.2 The Moderate Interpretation
 - 2.4.3 The Radical Interpretation
- 2.5 Faith as Knowledge: The Traditionalist Backlash
- 2.6 Browne's High Church Religious Epistemology
 - 2.6.1 Browne on Faith as Knowledge
 - 2.6.2 Browne against Toland and Synge
 - 2.6.3 Browne and Other High Church Philosophers
- 2.7 Berkeley's Latitudinarian Religious Epistemology
 - 2.7.1 Lockean Religious Epistemology in Two Late Works of Berkeley

iv CONTENTS

- 2.7.2 Lockean Religious Epistemology in Berkeley's Early Works
- 2.7.3 Berkeley on Faith and Epistemic Authority

3 Mysteries

- 3.1 Traditional Views
- 3.2 Transubstantiation and the Trinity: Tillotson and Stillingfleet
- 3.3 Locke and Toland against Mysteries
- 3.4 Browne's Analogical Theory
- 3.5 Berkeley's Pragmatist Theory
 - 3.5.1 Faith in Mysteries
 - 3.5.2 The Mysteries of Free-thinking
 - 3.5.3 The Mysteries of Christianity
 - 3.5.4 Trinitarian Orthodoxy in Berkeley and Other Latitudinarians
- 3.6 Browne's Critique of Berkeley on Mysteries
- 3.7 Conclusion

4 The Divine Attributes

- 4.1 Traditional Views
- 4.2 The Threat of Atheism
 - 4.2.1 Cudworth
 - 4.2.2 Clarke
- 4.3 King and Collins
 - 4.3.1 King's Sermon
 - 4.3.2 Collins' Refutation
 - 4.3.3 Collins' Alleged Argument for Atheism
- 4.4 Univocity in Berkeley's Three Dialogues
- 4.5 Analogy in *Alciphron*
 - 4.5.1 Analogy and Clandestine Atheism
 - 4.5.2 Euphranor and Crito on Classical Philosophical Theology
 - 4.5.3 Berkeley and Cajetan
- 4.6 Browne's Defense of Analogy
 - 4.6.1 Analogy and Metaphor
 - 4.6.2 Browne on The Divine Attributes
 - 4.6.3 Browne's Critique of Berkeley
- 4.7 Berkeley, Jackson, and the Anonymous Letter
 - 4.7.1 Berkeley's Non-Response to Browne
 - 4.7.2 Jackson's Critique of Browne
 - 4.7.3 The Anonymous Letter
 - 4.7.4 Browne and his Opponents
- 4.8 Analogy, Univocity, and Berkeley's Latitudinarianism

Appendix: Authorship of the Anonymous Letter

5 Political Theology

- 5.1 The Passive Obedience Controversy
- 5.2 Berkeley's Defense of Passive Obedience
- 5.3 The Need for Hierarchy: Astell, Berkeley, and Balguy
- 5.4 Baptism and Slavery

CONTENTS v

- 5.5 Religion, Money, and Hierarchy in Berkeley's Querist
- 6 Latitude and Toleration
- 7 George Berkeley: Latitudinarian Divine

Bibliography