

*The Two Books of Francis Bacon. Of the proficiencie and advancement of Learning, divine and human (1605), 31.*

Wherefore to conclude this part, let it bee observed, that there be two principall duties and seruices besides ornament & illustration, which Philosophie and humane learning doe perourme to faith and Religion. The one, because they are an effectuall inducement to the exaltation of the glory of God. For as the Psalmes, and other Scriptures doe often inuite vs to consider, and magnifie the great and wonderfull workes of God : so if we should rest onely in the contemplation of the exterior of them, as they first offer themselues to our senses ; we should do a like iniurie vnto the Maiestie of God, as if wee should iudge or construe of the store of some excellent leweller, by that onely which is set out toward the streete in his shoppe. The other, because they minister a singuler helpe and preseruaritie against vnbeleefe and error ; For our Sauour saith, *You erre not knowing the Scriptures, nor the power of God* : laying before vs two Bookes or volumes to studie, if we will be secured from errour : first the scriptures, reuealing the will of God ; and then the creatures expressing his power ; whereof the later is a key vnto the former ; not onely opening our vnderstanding to conceiue the true sence of the scriptures, by the generall notions of reason and rules of speech ; but chiefly opening our beleefe, in drawing vs into a due meditation of the omnipotencie of God, which is chiefly signed and ingrauen vpon his workes. Thus much therefore for diuine testimonie and euidence, concerning the true dignitie, and value of learning.