
**The History and Principles of the Book of Common
Prayer Practically Explained**

Hudson Joseph

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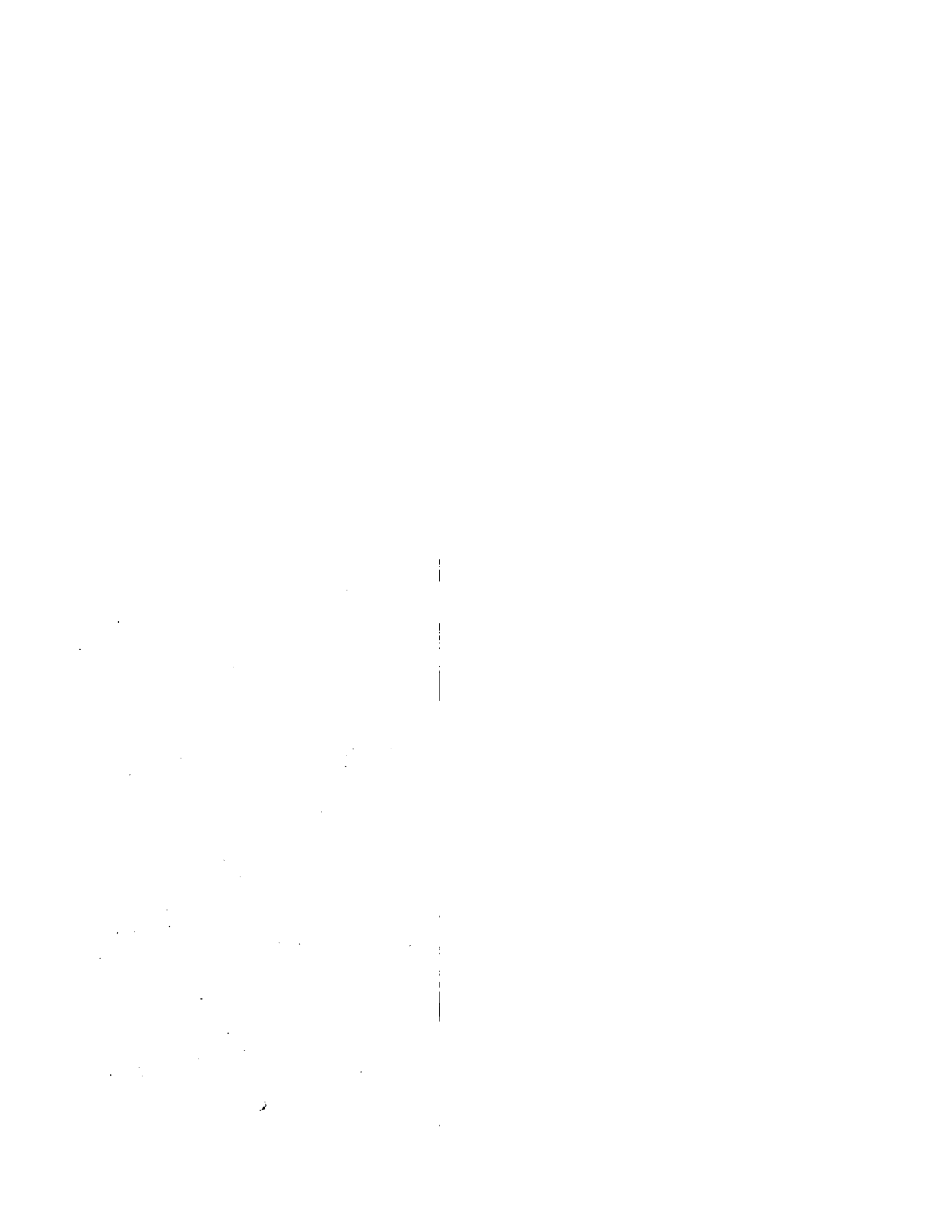
THE
HISTORY AND PRINCIPLES
OF THE
Book of Common Prayer
PRACTICALLY EXPLAINED.

BY
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INTRODUCTION.

THE design of the present publication is to assist parents and the conductors of schools, in giving to the more advanced children, under their care, a correct and sufficiently comprehensive knowledge of the history and principles of the Book of Common Prayer.

Should this unpretending compilation be found to contribute to a more intelligent and devout use of the Book of Common Prayer, the author will consider himself more than rewarded for the labour it has cost him. While information has been sought from various quarters, a particular acknowledgment is due for aid obtained from the valuable edition of the Prayer Book published by Bishop Mant.

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BRIEF ENQUIRY INTO THE PROPRIETY AND EXPEDIENCY OF LITURGICAL FORMS IN THE PUBLIC SERVICE OF THE CHURCH, WITH NOTICES OF THEIR HISTORY.

THERE are many persons in the present day, who object to the use of set forms of prayer and thanksgiving in the public worship of God: these, in their opinion, cramp rather than assist devotion, and fetter the mind of the worshipper, instead of being a help to him in drawing near to God. In determining a question of this kind, it is certainly proper to enquire what has been the practice of the Church of God in past ages, and especially in those times nearest to the source of all authority in the Christian Church, apostolical guidance and government. And if it is found that in every branch of the Church Catholic, of whose early history we have any records, such forms have been employed, the presumption is very strong in favour of the opinion, that their use is according to the will of Christ, and calculated to promote the ends for which the public worship of God has been instituted.

Is it then probable that the apostles adopted a