

William Penn

Another important Anti-Trinitarian Quaker is none other than the celebrated founder of Pennsylvania, William Penn. Penn wrote a book entitled The Sandy Foundation Shaken in which he denied the Trinity doctrine. For these statements he was accused of denying the divinity of Christ and imprisoned. From prison he wrote a brave answer to these charges entitled Innocency With Her Open Face. In this treatise he refers to the voice of wisdom in Proverbs:

“I wisdom lead the paths of judgment: I was set up from everlasting.”

Penn alluded to the words of Paul in I Corinthians chapter one, in which he calls Jesus the power of God and the wisdom of God. He says:

“Christ who is the power and wisdom of God is not distinct from God, but entirely that very same God.”

He boldly heralded:

“All these qualifications and divine properties are, by the concurrent testimonies of Scripture, ascribed to the Lord Jesus Christ; therefore, without a scruple, I call and believe to be the mighty God.”

Later in the same book he appealed to his readers to judge whether:

“those persons who have been posting out their books against me [whilst a close prisoner] have not been beating the air and fighting against their own shadows.”

Thank God for brave, true hearted, Jesus is God believers like the early Quakers and William Penn!

(The Origin of the Trinity Doctrine (Newly Revised) by David E Adams, Walker, W.V.: Dayspring Publications, 1996, 54-55, Text Modified)