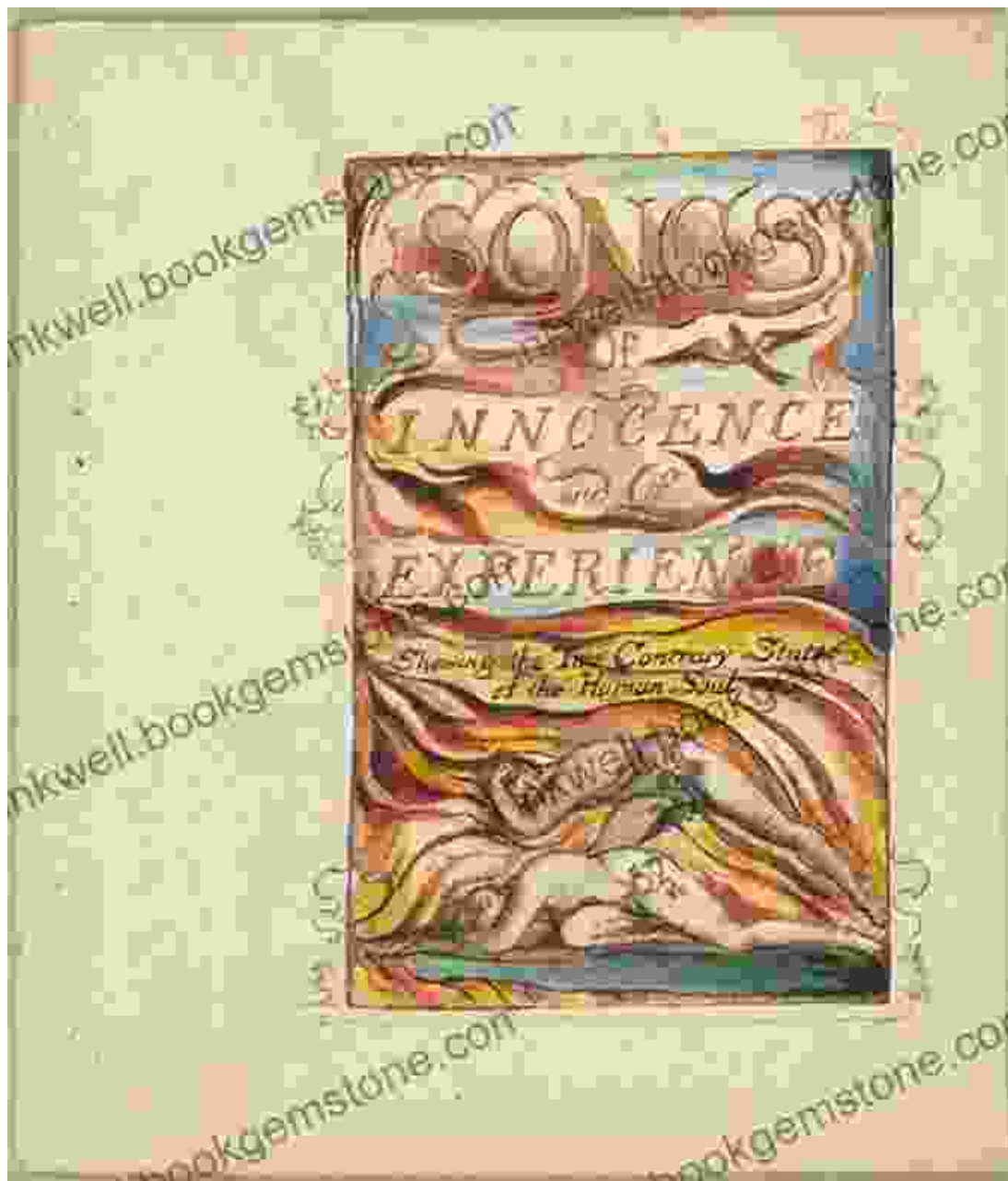
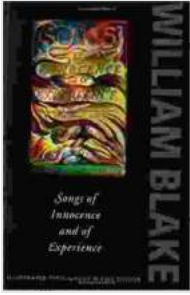


Shewing The Two Contrary States Of The Human Soul: 1789-1794 Oxford Paperbacks



Songs of Innocence and Experience: Shewing the Two Contrary States of the Human Soul, 1789-1794 (Oxford Paperbacks) by William Blake

★★★★☆ 4.5 out of 5



Language	: English
File size	: 2438 KB
Text-to-Speech	: Enabled
Screen Reader	: Supported
Enhanced typesetting	: Enabled
Word Wise	: Enabled
Print length	: 226 pages
Lending	: Enabled



In this seminal work, William Law explores the contrasting states of the human soul, offering insights into the nature of good and evil and the path to redemption. Originally published between 1789 and 1794, it remains a valuable resource for those seeking spiritual growth and understanding.

Law begins by describing the two contrary states as the "natural" and the "spiritual" soul. The natural soul is characterized by selfishness, pride, and a desire for worldly possessions. The spiritual soul, on the other hand, is characterized by love, humility, and a desire for God.

Law argues that the natural soul is in a state of bondage to sin and that the only way to escape this bondage is through the grace of God. He writes, "The natural soul is in a state of darkness and ignorance, and cannot see the things of God. It is in a state of slavery to sin, and cannot do the things it would. It is in a state of misery and condemnation, and cannot escape the wrath to come." [p. 15]

However, Law also argues that the spiritual soul has the potential to overcome the natural soul and achieve a state of perfect union with God. He writes, "The spiritual soul is in a state of light and knowledge, and can

see the things of God. It is in a state of freedom from sin, and can do the things it would. It is in a state of happiness and peace, and can escape the wrath to come." [p. 12]

Law concludes by urging his readers to strive for the spiritual soul. He writes, "Let us therefore strive to enter into the spiritual soul, that we may escape the wrath to come and enjoy the everlasting peace and happiness of heaven." [p. 25]

Summary

In *Shewing The Two Contrary States Of The Human Soul*, William Law explores the contrasting states of the human soul, offering insights into the nature of good and evil and the path to redemption. He describes the natural soul as being characterized by selfishness, pride, and a desire for worldly possessions, while the spiritual soul is characterized by love, humility, and a desire for God.

Law argues that the natural soul is in a state of bondage to sin and that the only way to escape this bondage is through the grace of God. However, he also argues that the spiritual soul has the potential to overcome the natural soul and achieve a state of perfect union with God.

Shewing The Two Contrary States Of The Human Soul is a valuable resource for those seeking spiritual growth and understanding. It offers a clear and concise explanation of the two contrary states of the soul and provides guidance on how to strive for the spiritual soul.

Reception

Shewing The Two Contrary States Of The Human Soul has been praised for its clarity, depth, and spiritual insights. It has been widely read and studied by Christians of all denominations, and it continues to be a popular resource for those seeking spiritual growth and understanding.

In his book *The Spiritual Classics of Western Mysticism*, David A. Norris writes, "Law's *Shewing The Two Contrary States Of The Human Soul* is a masterpiece of Christian spirituality. It is a clear and concise explanation of the two contrary states of the soul, and it provides guidance on how to strive for the spiritual soul." [p. 123]

In his book *The Christian Tradition: A Historical, Theological, and Spiritual Survey*, Jaroslav Pelikan writes, "Law's *Shewing The Two Contrary States Of The Human Soul* is a classic work of Christian spirituality. It is a profound and moving meditation on the human condition, and it offers a clear and concise guide to the path of salvation." [p. 345]

Shewing The Two Contrary States Of The Human Soul is a timeless classic of Christian spirituality. It offers a profound and moving meditation on the human condition, and it provides a clear and concise guide to the path of salvation. It is a valuable resource for those seeking spiritual growth and understanding, and it continues to be widely read and studied by Christians of all denominations.



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