

Source: Oliver Cromwell, *Speech to Parliament*, 1655

And the People being the blessing of God, they will not be so angry but they will prefer their safety to their passions, and their real security to forms, when Necessity calls for Supplies. ...

But if any man shall object, "It is an easy thing to talk of Necessities when men create Necessities: would not the Lord Protector make himself great and his family great? Doth not he make these Necessities? And then he will come upon the People with his argument of Necessity!" ... And I say this, not only to this Assembly, but to the world, That the man liveth not who can come to me and charge me with having, in these great Revolutions, the things of God, and His working of things from one period to another, - how, I say, they call them Necessities of men's creation! For by so doing, they do vilify and lessen the works of God, and rob Him of His glory ... . And God knoweth what He will do with men, when they can His Revolutions human designs, and so detract from His glory. ...

To say that men bring forth these things when God doth them, - judge you if God will bear this? ... They that shall attribute to this or that person the contrivances and production of those mighty things God hath wrought in the midst of us ... they speak against God, and they fall under His hands without a Mediator. That is, if we deny the Spirit of Jesus Christ the glory of all His works in the world; by which He rules kingdoms, and doth administer, and is the rod of His strength, - we provoke the Mediator: and He may say: I will leave you to God, I will not intercede for you; let Him tear you to pieces!