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Presented by Mr. Samuel Agnew of Philadelphia, Pa.

Agnew Coll. on Baptism, No.

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Anabaptismes mysterie of iniquity unmasked. 1623

by I.P.



WISEDOMES

VNTIE

Heau nly Pilgrims,

In middest of their manifold distractions:

Vnmasking the a Man of Sinne, against the b battell of the great day. a 2 Thes. 2.3. b Reu. 16.14. 219.17.

By 1. P.

Prov. 8, 1. 15.

By Wifedome Kings raigne, and Princes decree instice.

PROV. 8. 11.

All things that may be desired, are not to be compared unto it.

LONDON, Printed by G. Eld, and are to be, fold by I. Budge, at the figne of the greene Dragon in Pauls

Church-yard, 1622.





Eloued Brethren, Apply of if you bee Wife a Man 1915. domes children the

like your b Father bee no respector of persons, lest you be rightly iudged to carry an I= dol in your bosome, viz.a mor= tall man, onto whom to ad= here instead of God.

If you bee credeemed from your vaine conversation, re= ceiued by tradition from your fathers, then walke no longer after the counsels, and ctra= ditions of Inaturally blinded ones under the first Death onely; or h spiritually blinded ones under both first and, 1 se=

b Ads 10,34 rom 2 II 1 pct.1.17.

c i Pet. 1.18. d 12.29.13.8 30.1.831.1.8 65.2. mat 15.9+ e Mat 15.3.to 9 f Rom. 11.32. gal.3.22. act.9.6 & 26,17,18. g Gen. 2.17. & 3 17,13,19, &c. ephe. 2. 1, 2,800. h Math. 12.31, 32,43,44,45. iohn.3.19,20. rom.1.21,23. 2 thef. 2,10,11, hebr. 6.4,5,6. & 10.26,27. z pčt.2.20. i Iude Iz reue, 2,11,86,20.6 and 21.8. cond

k 18a,305.

1 2 Tim, 3.6,7

m 2 Tim.3.3.

n Ephic. j. r4.

cond death, lest with seduced Israel, you become k ashamed of a people that cannot pro= fite you, nor bee a helpe, but a shame, and also a reproach conto you: and with those women the Apostle speakes of, bee ever learning, and neuer 1 able to come to the knowledge of the Trueth, af= ter your owne mlustes, hea= ping to your felues Teach= ers, having itching eares, that cannot endure sound Dostrine, carried a away with everie winde of Do= Etrine.

Know from the Testimo= nie of God, that as godlinesse

is

is not onely a o Mysterie, but a P great mysterie: so is 9 wickednesse likewise, both which hidde from bodily eyes, as are the Teachers of them, who inwardly are raue= ning Wolues: The e milte= ries beeing spirituall, must Spiritually bee discerned; therefore bee earnest with the Lord in Praier for the Spirit of Discerning, there= in onely feeking Gods " glo= rie, not your x owne, that To you may bee able to y put difference betweene things that differ.

And as you have spent much time in Reading and Con= o I Cor.2.7.

p t Tim.3 16. q Ephe.6.12. 2 thef.2.7. reuc.2.24.

r Math.7.15. & 23.14,25.00 29. & 24.24.24.2007. II.23,24,25. f Mat. 13.13.to IS.1 cor.2.14.

t Luke 11.13, iohn 14.26. & 15.26. & 16.13, u 1 Cor.v.31, & 10.31, x 1 Cor.3.21, iam.4.6. y Mal.3.18.

k 18a305.

1 2 Tim.3.6,7

n Ephic.4.74.

m 2 Tim.3.3.

cond death, lest with seduced Israel, you become k ashamed of a people that cannot pro= fite you, nor bee a helpe, but a shame, and also a reproach onto you: and with those women the Apostle speakes of, bee ever learning, and neuer lable to come to the knowledge of the Trueth, af= ter your owne m lustes, hea= ping to your selves Teach ers, hauing itching eares, that cannot endure sound Dostrine, carried a away with everie winde of Do= ctrine.

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p t Tim.3 16. q Ephe.6.12.

2 thef.2:7. reuc.2.24.

r Matb.7.15. & 23.14,25. to 29. & 24. 24. 2 cor. 11.23,24,25. f Mat. 13.13. to 18.1 cor. 2.14.

t Luke 11.13.
iohn 14.26. &
15.26. & 16.13.
u 1 Cor. 1.31,
& 10.31.
x 1 Cor. 3.21,
iam. 4.6.
y Mal. 3.18.

Con=

. The Preface

g z Thef. 1.6.7 8.&c. reue.2 1.8 & 22.15. of righteousnesse, which the Lord, the righteous sudge shall give you at that & day, when all impenitent ones shal bee shut out of the Kingdome of heaven.

Your welwishing Christian Brother

7 P

SECTEOREDE SECTION OF SECTION OF

Aduertisments to the

Or the Readers better vnderstanding, who conceiue nor the meaning of an Argumentall reason, or Sylogisme, with which this Treatise is often intermixed, so well, for, as against the Truth ; for whose better helpes, principally I have published the same. I thought it fit in this place to endeauour to let you know, that an Argumentall reason, and Sylogisme is one, and the same thing: of which are divers kindes, among which kinds, onely one kind, to my best remembrance, is ysed in this T reatife

Treatife: which confilteth of three parts, by name, according to the Latine (for so are they vsed in this Trearise viz. Maior, Minor, Conclusion, according to the English, Greater, Leffer, Ende; first, second, third.

The first part is named Greater, for that it hath the first place, and is the mouing part of the Argument, as is the question in Catechising, not in respect of quality, for so it is the leffer, as in all the following Arguments.

The second part is named Leffer, for that it hath an inferiour: viz. a lower place, and an answere to the Maior.

The third part is named, Conclusion, for that it compreheds and shuts vp in agreement, both the two former parts. The

10 the Reader.

The first part is a Proposition, and depends upon a supposition, or condition: viz. if such a thing be, as therein is supposed.

The second part is an affumption, viz. an absolute affirmation, that such a thing is,

as therein is mentioned.

The third part viz. the Conclusion, as before, is the Inference, Determination, or End, which compredens both

the two former parts.

You therefore, who are ignorant in such manner of reasoning, I aduise, specially to observe the Minor, viz. the second part of the Argument, and whether the Scriptures produced do proue the same? For that, as formerly is related, is an absolute affirmation, that what therin is conteined, is true; and that part of the Argument in the reasonings on the Anabaptists part, is not in any one Argument proued by their produced Scriptures, as confiderately observed, will plainely appeare vnto

you.

And for preuention of the euill of discouragement, from reading these briefe collections, published for your eternal benefit, and from godly obedience to Gouernment established: (to preserue a quiet and peaceable life in all godlinesse and honesty) which vsually are practifed by Sismaticall spirits, that with those rebellious ones in the Prophet cry out a against holyer men then themselves, for any thing themselves know to the contrary; laying, Stand further

a Ma.55.5.

off Iam holier then thou; and with the boafting b Pharefie, in the Gospell, I am not as yonder Publican: and with the mocking fenfuall Separatists in c Inde, and Peter, who walke after their ownevngodly lusts, despising d Gouernment, and in their generall meetings, as otherwise speaking euill of Dignities, and Dignified men, and of other things which they vnderstand not &c. Through which and not for truths fake, to my best opferuance: They (I hope not wilfully? but out of ignorant zeale) not onely draw manifold afflictions vpon thefelues, but also vpon heartely conformed obedient ones, whose meetings are freed from such irreverent behaui-

b Luke 18.11.

c [ude 18.19.

d 2 Pet. 2 10,&c Iude 8.

What

An Aduertisement

What though Separatits affirme, that a Bishop ioyned in Commission with a Ciuill Magistate, in Courts of Iustice established, and therein exacution by the Kings Authoritie, be Anchristian, and therefore not to be submitted vnto.

Yet holy Writ affirmes that Ifraels Gouernment in its most happy station, had both Priest and civill Maistrate, in a Courts of Iustice, ioyned to-

gether.

So had Christian Gouernments in the Apostles times, as appeares by Christs Institutio, & the Bapostles Iniunction; in which both forts of Elders, viz. Preachers, and Lay me, are describ'd by thenames of Rulers:) though by reason of the Regall vnbeleeuing

e Devt. 17.8. to 14.8 19.47. Num. 34.17.4

fi Ccr. 12. 28.8c.

g 1 Tim.5.17 compared with Mat. - 8.15.17 1 Cor. 5.1-3.4-5 1 Tim.1.20. &: 3.4.5*

to the Reader.

Authoritie, under which they lined, It were not so manifest-

ly discernable.

What though they likewise affirme it an vniust practice, to minister an oath, to a perfon suspected, an offendor, when not any witnesse can testifie against him.

Yet holy writ affirmes the contrary? whither therefore to obey God or man? to follow God or Ball be best, judge

you.

What tho men many times vpon malitious information, are wrongfully called into Commission Courts.

Shall Commissioners and commission Courts (which are to try the truth of enery information,) bee therefore called vniust; God forbid.

What tho men called into

fExod.22.10; 11 Deut. 19.16, 17.86,

An Aduertisement

Commission Courts, often times remaine long vntried, and that by reason of mulritude of waightier affaires, shal Commissioners and Commission Courts therefore bee called vniuste God forbid. What tho cost and other

punishments awarded (with

goods to bee restored, according to Gods law,) against a malitious informer be not leuicd; and that through the defect of subordinate Officers, and the grieued ones neg-

ners awarding the same? Shall Commissioners, and Commission Courts be therfore traduced and called vn-

lcct of fober information thereof, to the Commissio-

just? God forbid.

Iudge not according to the outward appearances, is the Injunction

g Exod 22.10. 11.12. deut, 19.18.19.80

h Iohn 17,24.

Iniunction of the Lord of Life; who tells vs fo to indge is vnrighteous Iudgement.

Neither iudge any thing before its time, for the Law iudgeth no man before it i heare him speake, and iuditially knoweth what hee hath done, according to the Apostles iniunction saying, speake not euill k one of another, for he that speaketh euill of his Brother and iudgeth his Brother, speaketh euill of the Law, and iudgeth the Law.

Therefore according to the iniunction of the Lord of life, (as formerly) indge not that yee bee not indged, for with what indgement yee indge, yee shall be indged, saith the

the same Lord.

Know I befeech you, that my multiplying of many A 3 Scrip-

i lohn 7.51.& 5.30.deut.17. 4.&c.

k lam,4.71.

I Math. 7. 1. &c.

An Aduertisement.

Scriptures, for one particuler proofe; Is primarily, for that my much experience, hath often times taught me, that a Scripture produced to proue a particular Doctrine, hath been fatisfactory, to one, when

not vnto another.

Secondarily, to take away that aspersion, which commonly is cast upon vs by our Adversaries, the Anabaptists (with whom specially I haue now to deale; and whose custome is, though improperly, to produce many Scriptures, for to proue one particuler Doctrine) saying, that our Doctrine prouesse are our owne dreames; not Divine authorities, with which fay they weehaue little acquaintance.

What though the Preface, the

to the Reader.

the Epistle, the head, were bigger then the Booke, the bodie, which some happely haue, others may say, yet if in euery particuler it bee vsefull for the body, as intruth it is then wisdome cannot reject it.

And follie to faue labor, and to auoid furfeting, may with filence passe it ouer, together

with the body its selfe.

What though Annabaptists and other like, from that scripture saying, he that touch eth pitch, shalbe desiled therewith, doe against divine authoritie a like vnskilfull, sloathfull, or deceitfull teachers, disswade their Nullisidian Disciples, from reading our bookes, heareing in our assemblies, or conferring with our vnderstanding ones, least as they

a lere, 6, 16, 1 Thei, 5,21, 1 Iohn 4,1,

An Aduertisement.

pretend, their Disciples should their with be defiled, or rather the ignorance, sloath or deceitfuluesse, both of them the teachers and Disciples, discouered as out of a Godly icalouzie is to be suspected.

And for the point of haptilme controverted in the following Treatife, If there were not a warrant in holy Scripturé in direct words or plaine consequence for baprizing infants, yet in so much as it is an ordinance a of man, which crosseth not any command of God, it is to bee obeyed by Christians, and that by command of God, for hee that is not against Christ is for Christ as in the following treatife; reasoning & the point of kneeling, whereunto I referre you, is largely proued.

There-

a 1 Pet, 2,13.
rom, 13,7,&c.,
Tir,3,1, eccl.
8,2, 1 tim,2,2,
&c.,

Mar 9 40. Luke 9.50.

to the Reader.

Therefore when Anabaptists in your hearing reproue the Church of England, for baptizing Infants, or Anabaptists, or others reproue you for contenting your felf with that baptisme, or for submitting in any other particular to the government of the Church of England: aske them what that law of God is, which by baptizing of Infants, as for other perticulers in the Church of England by you submitted vnto is broken by the Church of England, or by you by fuch baptisme, such submission; which Law if they cannot plainely shew you, then it is to be feared that they are those prophelied off, which speake euill of what they know not, of whom I befeech you to beware.

2 Pet, 2,12. Iude 10.

The



The Contents of the following Treatife.

A Coppie of a Letter, written by one sometimes an Anabaptist, (now by Gods providence revolted) separated from Communion with the Church of England, to his (sometimes, viz. before his separation, and sithence his revolt) beloved and accounted Christian Brethren, of the Church of England, in which, and with whom, in power at least, as himselfe now confesses, hee had his religious beginnings: written of purpose by him, to encline them to separation.

In which is contained.

1 That B ip:izing cf) nfants is unlamfull.

2 That Infants cannot be Christians. 3. That Infants cannot confesse their sinnes.

4. That

4. That the Church significath a people called out of their former estate wherein they were by nature.

5. That wicked men cannot bee of

it, because they are not called out.

6. That Antichrifts spirituall bon-

dage cannot be of it.

7. That there is neither command, Example, or inst consequence for Infants baptisme.

8. An Admonition to beware of taking up the unbeleesing Iewes example, in labouring to prooue baptifing

of Infants lawfull.

A Copie of a Letter to the same persons, to present the hoped successe of the foregoing Letter, with some late additions thereunto; written by a Prote-Stant, holding Communion with the Church of England (though sometimes through the erronious spirits of such as at least speake enill of things they vnderstand not, much staggered in the said Communion) to whele hands by Gods providence the said Letter came before it had had its delinerie to the persons directed unto. Fol. 13.&c.

T Pet, 2, 12, lude Io .

In which is contained.

The Summary Contents of the Anafol. 13. baptists Letter.

That which principally moved the au-

thor to answer the foregoing letter. 1'2.

The Scriptures cited by the Anabaptistes, expressed in their said Letter argumentally laid downe in seuen seuer all Sylogismes, and that for the more plain and manifest discovery of the truth. 15.

A generall answere to the foure first and last particular arguments, concerning Childrens boptisme.

The law fulnesse of baptising Infants, and vie thereof.

Common and particular morkes of the Spirit.

-- Comparative resemblances betweene the signes of Gods Couenants, before and sithence Christes manifestation in the flesh.

An explanation of the word Grafting, incorporating, in the Common Prayer booke vsed in Baptisme.

Reasoning from consequence, comparing spirituall things with spirituall, in cause when it crosseth not a command, is found reasoning.

An answer to the fift and fixt Arguments, seeming to prooue, that wicked men, Antichrists spiritual bondage, cannot be a part of the visible Church called Christians.

An answere to their admonition, against taking up the unbeleeuing lewes example, for prouing Baptising Infants lawfull.

An answere to the Anabaptists oppositions of Gods decree of Predestination in Election, and reprobation, & falling from being regenerate, recorded in their printed Bookes, violently pressed against the Church of England, grounding their oppositions partly upon mistaking, or wilfull abusing of Mr. Caluin, and M Knoxe writings on that poynt, &c, and partly upon mistaking, or wilfull abusing the Scriptures, treating of Adams estate, and condition in innocency; which lay they, (but procue it not) was an estate and condition replenished with will and power, able of himselfe without Gods protection, to stand against the Deuill, and other Apostate Angels.

Rules of triall for a particular per-

As appeareth in the begining of their Booke against Predefination, and speciall election before time,

Son, whether hee bee elected. fol 57

A briefe description of the hidden policies of seducers; with rules for their discouery.

The abhominable blasphemies of such as oppose Gods said decree of Predestination in Election, Reprobation, and falling from being regenerate, and childrens being Christians.

Exhaut ations to move them to repe-

Exhortations to move them to repetance, and maner how to repent if their sin be not against the holy Ghost. 65

A Defription of the Sinne against the Holy Ghost, in which is laid downe the doctrine of Repentance, by which to try themselves: written for, and at the request of an afflicted conscience, suspecting it selfe fallen into that sinne. 71

With a Coppy of a briefe discription of some passages, of the Authors passed miseries, and what moved him to writ the same.

With Christian Caucats in examining the Said sinne against the holy Ghost.

A description of Satans wily policies to draw enlightened ones to Apoflacie.

Rules for prenention of the the said pollicies. 109

Great and troubl fome greenances to enlightened ones, arifing from miftaken Scripture ground. 113

Rules for removall of the said greeuances, clearing the said mistaken grounds.

Certaine reasonings, fer, and against kneeling, at receiving of the Sacracrament of the Lords Supper, by which the lamfulnesse of kneeling is plainely proudd

Rules of Direction for better vn_ derstanding Scriptures, divers maner of speaking.

Some particular circumstance, in performance of holy Duties; for which there is not a plaine Scripture left to the disposing and ordering of the Church. Fol. 37 and 136

a1 Thef.5.17. b , Tim.4.15. c Ma. I.s. eze. 12. 3 & 18.28 d Luke 24. 45. e Acts 15.14. f Reu, 3.7.8 .:

g Mat. 1 1. 25. and 21,16.

h 1fa.8,13,14,15 pet.2.8.

i Ifa 28.16. Rom. 9.33. I pet, 2, 6.7. k Ila. 28.16.

1 Acts 17.1 I. Ifa. 8,20. John. 5.39. I Tim. 6.3.

DRaya, bReade, and Confider, Pand the Lord for his Christs sake d open your understanding hearts, as once he did the heart ofhis Seruant e Lydya, euen by and through him that f openeth and no man shutteth, and shutteh and no man openeth; By and through whom praise is perfected euen in the mouthes of g Babes and Sucklings.

Christ is a stone of stumbling, and h Rocke of offence to them that stumble at the Word, being disobedient, whereunto also they were appointed

But a fure foundation to them that beleeue.

Hee that beleeveth shall not make k haste viz. to beleeue Doctrines, till with the noble 1 Beream according to the Lords Counfell, hee have repayred by Prayer to the Lawe and Testimony.

The



A Copie rightly related of an Anabaptists Letter, written to his iometimes accounted Christian Bretheren, showing the cause of his separation from the Church of Engl nd, ndued by a principall Elder, in and of that Separation.

Eloued Friends, the ancient loue that I haue had towards you, prouoketh me

to testifie, that I have not forgotten you, but am desirous still to shew my vnfained love vnto you in anything I may. I make no question but you have heard divers false reports of mee, although among the

fame some truths, and that you may be truely informed of my estate, I thought good to write a few words vnto you, hoping you will not speak cuill of that you know not, nor condemne

a man vnhéard.

The thing wherein I differ from the Church of England, is, they fay at their washing or baptizing their Infants, They are members, children of God, and inheritours of the kingdome of heauen. This I dare not beleeue; for the scriptures of God declare, that neither flesh, nor washing the flesh can sauc. Flesh and blood cannot enter into the kingdome of God: for that is flesh, is flesh, and wee cannot enter into the kingdome of God, except wee be borne againe: They that have prerogatiuc

r. Cor. 15.

lohn 3.5:

gatine to bee the sons of God, must bee borne of God, even beleeve in his name: and the washing off the filth of the step shows the step shows that saveth, but a good conscience maketh requests to God. If any bee in Christ, hee is a new creature. The consequence of this is, that Infants are not to bee baptized, nor can bee Christians; but such onely as confesse their Faith, as these Scriptures teach.

There is neither command, example, or inst consequence for Infants Baptisme, but for the baptizing of Beleeuers: There is besides of the Church of God to be considered what it is: It will plainely appeare, that Infants cannot bee of it; they that know the language from wheee the word Church

Iohn 1,12,

1. Pet/3.2E.

2.Cor.5.17.
Gal.6.15.
Mat.28.19.
Mat.16.15.15
Act.16.88.51.88
8.12.37. & 9 18
& 10.47.& 16.
91.& 12.8.&
19.3.

istaken, can witnesse that it fignifieth a people called out; and so the Church of Christ is a company called out of their former estate wherein they were by nature, out of Babylon, wherein they have been in spirituall bondage to the power of Antichrift, and from having fellowship in spirituall worship with vnbeleeuers and vngodly men, from all whosoeuer commeth out, they are fit timber for his spirituall building, which is a habitation of God by the spirit, and the houshould of faith. Those thus come out of nature, Egyptian bondage, and the fellowship of the children of Beliall, being newe Creatures; and so holy Brethren are made Gods house or Church,

through being knit together

Reu.18-4.

2.Cor.6.14.

1 Pet.1.5. Ephel.2.22.

Galat.2,10.

Hebr.3.6.

by the Spirit of God, and baptized into his body, which is the Church. This being vndeniable, the Church of Christ, Infants cannot bee of it, for they cannot bee called out as aforefaid: knowne wicked men cannot be of it, because they are not called out; nor Antichrists spirituall bondage cannot bee of it, because that is a habitation of Deuils, and all Gods people must goe out of that. What can be justly obiected against this? are not all the sonnes of God by, faith? If any be in Christ, or a Christian, must hee not bee a new Creature? I pray you doe not take vp that vsuall objection which the Antichristians have learned of the Iewes: What tellest thou vs of being made Christians onely by faith in B 3 the

1.Cor, 12,13.

Ephe,1.22,23.

Reuel.13.2

Vcr. 4.

Galat.3.26.

z.Cor.5.17.

Galat.6.15.

Joh 8.33.

Gen.17.

Read Gal 4,22. and confider it in the feare of God.

Hebr. 9.9. 10.

Rom. 4.8.79

the Sonne, and so being made free, wee are the children of Abraham, and of Beleeuers. Wee are vnder the promise, I will bee the God of thee and thy feed: thus are we and our children made free, when as they neither doe nor can beleeue in the Sonne. This is a Icwish Antichristian fable, for Abraham had two fonnes; which were types of the two Scedes, to the which two Couenaunts are made, the one borne after the flesh, tiping out the fleshly Israelits, which were the Inhabitants of materiall Ierusalem, where was the material Temple, and the performance of those carnall Rites which endured vnto the time of Reformation.

The other by Fath, typing out the children of the faith

of Abraham, which are the Inhabitants of the spirituall Ierusalem, the new Testament in which is the spirituall Temple, the Church of the living God, and the performance of all those spirituall Ordinances which Christ Iesus as Prophet and King thereof, hath appoynted, which remaines, and cannot be shaken or altered.

Now if the olde Couenant bee abolished, and all the appertainings thereof, as it is, as being similitudes of heavenly things, even the Covenant written in the booke, the people, the Tabernacle, or Temple, and all the ministring Vessels, and a better Couenantestablished, vpon better promises, and better Temple and ministring vessels came instead thereof, procured and B 4

Hebr. 12.23.

Fiebr. 8.13. Heb. 9.19.24.

Hcb. 8.69

pur-

8

Hebr. 10.19.24

2 - 27. - 3

Phil.3.3.

Ads 9.13.

braham, challenge is the couenant of life and faluation by Iesus Christ, made to all the children of Abraham, as it is made to Abraham himselfe, to them that believe in him that raised vp Iesus our Lord from the dead; as also Acts 13.26.32 39. the children of the flesh are not they, Rom, 9.8. they must bee put out, and must not bee neyres with the faithfull: If they that are of the Lawe bee heires, Faith is made void, and the promise is made of none effect: therefore it is by Faith, that it might come by grace, and the promise might bee fure to all the feed that are of the faith of Abraham, who is the Father of all the faithfull. They are his children, the promise of saluation is not made with both Abrahams seeds, but with

Rom.4.24.

Galat.4.30.

Rom 4.14.

Ver. 16.

Galat.3.7.9.29

Galat.3.16.

Ver. 29:

Ephe-4.28.

Ho[\$.124

with his one feed, they that arc of the Faith of Abraham. These things may bee strange to those that are strangers from the life of God, through the ignorance that is in them, because of the hardnesse of their hearts God hath written them as the great things of his Lawe, but they are counted of many as a strange thing; but Wildome is justified of all her children, & they that set their hearts to seeke wildome, as filuer, and fearch for her as for treasure, they shal see the righreoufnesse of those things as the light, and the enidence of them as the noone day. They that bee wise, will trie thefe things by the true touch-stone of the holy Scriptures, and leave off reloycing in men, to hang their Faith & Profession

r.Cors.zr.

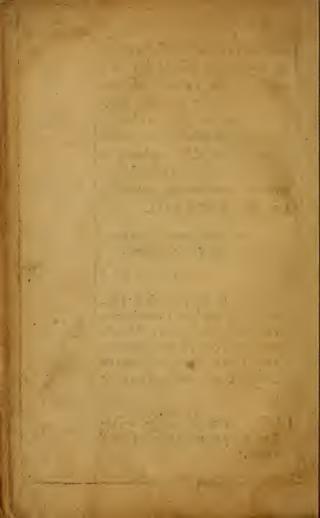
on them, the which I feare not to supplicate God, day and night on the behalfe of you all. To whose gracious direction I commit you, with a remembrance of my hartie loue to euery one, desiring but this fauour, that for requital I may receive your louing answere. London. 10. Mai 1622.

Tours to be commanded alwayes in any Christian Scruice.

H.H.

I have fent to my Friends a testimonic of my loue: one booke to Master Stroma one to Goodman Ball, one to Mistris Founsame, one to Roger Seely, one to Samuel Quast, and one to your selse.

I befeech you reade, confider, and the Lord give you understanding in all things.





An answer to the foregoing Letter by 1. P. a member of the Church of England, fent to the same people to weaken the power of the foregoing Letter.



Eloued, for the Lords fake, these are to let you vnderstand, that by Gods prouidence

there came a Letter to my view, bearing date the 10 of this prefent Moneth of May, directed to you from a separated people called Anabaptists, by which they both affirmatively and negatively, by Scriptures and Reasons labour to proove.

1. That baptizing of Infants

is vnlawfull.

2 That

2. That Infants cannot bee Christians.

3. That Infants cannot confesse their sinnes, neither haue

faith, &c.

4. That the Church significate a people called out of their former estate, wherein they were by nature, &c. which Infants are not, for they cannot bee called out.

5. That wicked men cannot be of it, because they are not cal-

led out.

6. Nor Antichrist spirituall

bondage.

7. That there is neither Commaund, Example, or just Consequence for Infants baptilme.

8. By which Letter likewise they admonish you to beware of taking vp the vibeleeuing Iewes example, in labouring to prooue baptizing of Infants vnlawfull: and this briefely is the summe of their letter. Vpon view of which letter, in a loue which seeketh not her owne, for loue b which com-

a 1.Cor.13.5. b 13tohn 4.16.

mands

mands mee not onely to looke on my owne things, but calfo on the things of others, to have compaffion of some, making addifference, and others to faue, with feare plucking them out of the fire.&c.

I have by Gods providence taken vpon me to answere the said seauen Positions, which for the more plaine and familiar performance, I haue by Gods assistance according to my received abilitie laid them down in seauen perticular Sylogismes, viz. Argumentall reasons, whereby it may the more easily appeare, whether their cited Scriptures doe prooue their said particular positions, or any of them.

And first of the first, viz. That children ought not to be baptized

ARGVMENT I. Oe and teach all Nations, Math, 28, 19. Jbaptizing them &c.

But

c Phil.z.4.

d Ind 22 23

But children are not teachable, viz capable of teaching.

Therefore children ought not to be baptized.

Secondly, of the second, viz. That children cannot bee Christians.

ARGUMENT 2.

IF any bee in Christ, he is a new Creature.

But children are not new creatures.

Therefore children are not Christians.

Thirdly, of the third, viz. That Infants cannot confesse their sinnes, neuber haue faith.

ARGVMENT 3.

Ha Christian.

But Infants beleeue not: Therefore Infants are not become Christians.

Fourth-

2. Cor. 5. 17.

Iolin 1.12:

Fourthly, of the fourth, viz.

That Infants cannot be of the
Church of Christ.

ARGUMENT 4.

The Church of Christ, is a company called out of their

former estate, wherein they were by nature.

But children are no such company called out.

Therefore children are not the Church of Christ.

Fiftly of the fift, That knowne wicked men cannot bee of the Church.

ARGUMENT 5.

The Church of Christ is a company called out of their former estate wherein they were by nature.

But wicked men are no such company called out.

Therefore wicked men are not the Church of Christ.

Sixtly

Reuel.4.13.

2.Cor.5.17.

Reue 1 2,15,16

Reue 13.15.16

What that

Imiec or marke is, nai-

ther by their

Bookes nor Voyces hauc'

they euer ma-

nifested by duine teffi. Sixtly of the fixt, That Antichrifts spirituall bondage is not the Church of Christ: For which in their Letter they cite not any Scripture; and therefore I have holpen them to one fet in this Margent, cited to that purpose in one of their owne printed Bookes, from whence this reason.

AROVMENT 6.

CVch as have received the Marke or Image of the Beaft in their right hand, or in their forehead, are not of the Church: But Antichrists spirituall bondage have received that Marke or Image.

Therfore Antichrists spirituall bondage are not of the Church.

monie vnto mee , neither doe I suppose they can; for that all their worthip expressed in their bookes, and otherwise, to my best obfernation, is meerely carnall,

Seventhly of the leventh, viz.
That there is nesther Command,
Example, or iust Consequence for Infants
Baptisme.

ARGVMENT 7.

All warrantable Actions in the Church of Christ, must have a Commaund, Example, or inst consequence from the booke of God.

But for baptizing of Infants, there is neither Commaund, Example, nor iust consequence from the booke of God.

Therefore Infants Baptilme is not warrantable.

For so much as the foure first and the last particular Arguments touching childrens Baptissne, &c. sets foorth the principall differences betweene vs in the poynt of Baptissne. I have by Gods assistance in the first place answered, and the fift and fixt in the last place.

C 2

An-

Rom, 14, 23. For this argument I haue likewise hol-pen them to a Scripture set in this magent.

Answere to the source first and last particular Arguments.

The Major Proposition of the faid foure first and last arguments, I confesse to be true.

But the Minor propositions of them, not any of their cited Scriptures doe so much as coulorably proue. Therefore till they be prooued, you may not receive them for trucths though Angels from heaven did produce them. And that is a sufficient answere to every of the said five Arguments.

Notwithstanding, for the more full information, and cleare satisfaction of weake Consciences, staggered in that poynt of Infants Baptisme: I have by Gods Assistance sent such arguments as I have received for proofe of Infants lawfull Baptisme, which follow thus:

As Circumcission of the a sless, and Circumcission of the bheart,

were

Gal. 1.8,9.

a Gen. 17.11. rom. 4.11. b Deur. 30.6. rom. 2.20. were a figne and seale of the Couenant among the Tipicall ordinances of the Law.

So Baptisme of water, and Baptisme of the Holy Ghost, are a signe and seale of the same Counant, among the Tipical ordinan-

ces of the Gospell.

As Circumcision of the stefs, the signe did admit and retaine visible d bodily obedient ones in the visible bodily Church of Christ, and vible bodily Family of Israel.

And Circumcission of the heart the seale did admit and retaine invisible spirituall sobedient ones in the inuisible spirituall Church of God, and inuisible spirituall family of Israel under the Tipicall ordinances of the Law.

So g Baptisme of water, the signe did and doth admit and retaine wisible bodily obedient hones in the visible bodily Church of Christ, and visible bodily family of Christians.

And Baptisme of the Holy
C 2 Ghost.

Mat3.11. 1;Pet3.21. 1:Cor.10.2.

c Gen. 17.13,14 and 34.13.to 18 d Exod. 12.44,* to 50, & 19.8. Leu. 7.21,25, & 18.19, e Deat. 30.6, Rom 2,29, Col. 2,11,

f 1.Sam, 1,15. 26,& 16,14.

g Matt.3.11.
mar.1.4.acts 1.
5. & 2.41. & 10.
47. & 16.15.33.
& 19.3.4.
2.thef.3.14.
h 1 Cor.5.5.11.

i Mat.3.11.
acts 1.5. & 19.5
1.cor.12.15.
1.pct.3.21.
k Mat.12.31.
lohn \$13435.
Heb.6.455.6
& 10.26.2.Pet.
2.20,21,&c.

. . (11)

.11.

Ghost, the seale did and doth admit and retaine invisible spirituall obedient ones in the invisible spiritual Church of Christ, and invisible spiritual family of Christians.

That you bee not deceined by Anabaptists, and others, in mistaking these Scriptures; and other like: 1. Sam. 16.14. Mat 12.44. 45,46. 1. Cor. 13.1,2. Hebr. 6.4. to 7. and ie. 26. to 30. 2. Pet. 2. 1, 2, 18, 20, 21, produced by them to prooue finall. Apostacie from the estate regenerate. Confider with mee, that the former places expresseth onely common workes of the spirit, from which man may fall away, and not peculiar workes of the Spirit proper only to the Regenerat estate, 25 these Scriptures expresse, Mat. 24.24. Marke 16.16. febr 4:14. and 5.24. and 6.39,40,47,51,54 58. and 7.38. and 8.35. 1. Cor. 13.8. 1. loh. 3.9. from which man cannot fall away.

As Circumcifion is two fold,

as formerly.

1. Outward in the flesh.

2. Inward in the heart and spirit.

The first wrought by man.

The second wrought by God.

The first*many had before euer had the second at least in manife-Ration.

The second many m had before in Rom, 4.11. euer had the first.

So Baptisme is likewise twofold

1. Outward, viz. the washing of the flesh.

2. Inward, viz. the washing of the heart, the spirit.

The first, the tipe or shadowe wrought by man.

The second, the type or substance wrought by OGod.

The first many had pbefore euer had the second.

The second many qhad before euer had the first.

As Abraham a beleeuer vnder the typicall ordinances of the law r circumcifed himselfe and all the

males

1 Ephe 2.11. Deut. 30.5. *Gen. 17.12.

n Mat.3.11.

o Mar 3, 11. p Ads 19.3.

g 4 cts 2,41. and 10.44.47. and 21,22.

r Gen.17,23, &c.

Actions 31,32,33,and 18.8.1 COL. 1.6

t Gen. 1 2.4. &c.

u Rom.4.11.

x Rom. 1.12. y Gen. 12.1.5. and 13.17,18. 811,0,10,80 & 22,23,&c.

males in his family aboue the age of seuen dayes.

So beleeuers under the typical ordinances of the Gospell with their s families were baptized.

As the signe of Circumcision. viz. cutting of the flesh, the foreskin, among the Tipycall ordinances of the law was a feale of the Righteousnesse of Faith, viz. of tobedience, which Abraham the father had being uvncircumcifed, that he might be the father of all them that beleeve, though they bee not circumcifed, that righteousnes might be imputed to them also, and the father of Circumcifion to them who are not of the Circumcifion only, but also walk in the steps of that x Faith, that y Obedience of Abraham which he had being yet uncircumcifed, which figne of Circumcifion was giuen to children also, though vnable, voluntarily to manifest to sense such righteousnesse of faith, viz. fuch obedience, &c.

So the figne of Baptisme, viz. wa-

washing with water, among the Tipicall ordinances of the Gofpell, is a seale of the same righteousnesse of Faith, viz. obedience which the Fathers of the faithfull had being z vnbaptized, that they also might bee the fathers of all them that believe, though they bee not baptized, that righteoufnesse might bee imputed to them also, and the fathers of Baptisme, to them who are not of the Baptisme onely, but also walke in the steps of that faith, that obedience of their fathers, which they had being vnbaptized: which figne of Baptisme by necessary confequence, was and is to be given to children also, though vnable voluntarily to manifest to sense such righteousnesse of faith, such obedience, &c. which necessary consequence, as in the former, so in the following lines plainly doth appeare.

If the figne Baptisme of water be a seale of the same righteousnesses of Faith, that the a signe

Circum-

Matth. 3.15.

z Acts 2.38.41 and 8.37.38. and 10.44.

aGen. 17, 10, 11 The thing fignifying put for the thing fignified. b Ads 10.47. 1.pet.3.21. Typically as Circumction

c Matth.3.15.

d Iohn 1.77, 2, cor, 3, 1, & c, heb, 3, 5, to 7, & 7, 19, to 28, & 9, 15, 19, to 28, heb, to, 1, to 13, 10, 28, 29, & 12, 14, 25, e Act, 16, 15,

Circumcision of the sless which was given to beleeuers children, during the Tipicall ordinance of the Law, then children of beleeuers ought to receive the signe Baptisme of water, during the Tipicall ordinances of the Gospell: but the signe Baptisme of water, is a seale of the same righteousnesses feath, that the signe Circumcision was.

Therfore children of beleeuers ought to receive the figne Bap-

tilme of water.

If Christ the Mediatour in the Gospel hath brought greater priuiledges to beleeuers in the Gosspell, then Moses the Mediatour in the Law; then beleeuers children in the Gospell ought to bee baptized.

But Christ hath brought grea-

ter priviledges.

Therefore beleeuers children vnder the Gospell ought to bee baptized.

Among them in Lidias household, Lidias heart onely is said

to

to bee opened by the Lord, and to attend the things that Paul preached.

Yet her houshold also was bap-

tized.

Among them of the Iaylors houshold, the promise is made vpon the Iaylors t beliefe onely, both to him and his house, as it was to g Abraham and his house, and he and all his were baptized, as Abraham and all his male childen were circumcised.

The like h figure vnto Baptisme was not onely Circumcisson, but also Noass Arke, the Cloud, and Sea, which signe, children likewise had. As the Paschal Lambe, Passeouer, Brasen Serpent was a figure of Christ and his last Supper, &c.

And all the fanctified typicall carpal ordinances, viz the Priests ornaments, and ornaments of the Temple, &c. being figures, shadowes of Christ were sholy, how much more beleevers children.

Holinesse becomes the house of God.

But

f Ad. 16.31.32

g Gen, 17.

h 1.Pct.3.20.

2.&6

i Robert Heb. 10.

Pf31.93.5.

28

k 1. Cor.7.14.

kholy.

Therefore beleevers children becomes the house of God.

If to Israels children according to the flesh, under the typicall ordinances of the Law, did appertaine the Adoption, the Glory, and the Couenants, & the giving of the Law, and the seruice of God, and the promiles.

How much more to Christians children according to the flesh, under the typicall ordinances of the Gospell doe appertaine the Adoption, the Glory, and the Couenants, and the giuing of the Law, and the seruice of God, and

the promises.

But to Israels children according to the m flesh, ynder the typicall ordinances of the Law, did appertaine the Glory, and the Couenants, and the giuing of the Law, and the Seruice of God, and the promises.

Therefore much more to Chriflians n children according to the flesh,

m Rom 3, 1,2, 3. & 9.3,4,5.&c.

1 Heb. 8, 9, 10, 11

m Acts 2,39.

flesh, vnder the typicall ordinances of the Gospell, do appertaine the Adoption, the Glory, and the Couenants, and the gining of the Law, and the Service of God, and the promises.

If in the time of the typicall ordinances of the Law, children were beloued for the fathers fake.

Much more in the time of the typicall ordinances of the Gofpel, children are to be beloued for the fathers fake.

But in the time of the typicall ordinances of the Law, children were beeloued for the fathers o fake.

Therefore much more in the time of the typicall ordinances of the Gospell, children are to be beloued for the fathers y sake.

If beloued, then admitted into the visible Church, at least, which is the least manifestation of loue, but beloued: Ergo, The beleeuing mother, and the vndisernable offending childe to bee separated from being of one and the same Church.

o Rom. 11,26.

p, Mat. 19. 13, 14. mar. 10. 13, 14, 15. q Mar.9.36.37. & 10.13.to 17. 1.cor.7.14

r In their late Booke against Predestination

(Ephe 1.10,22 23.&3.15.

t Gan, 19, 13, 14, 1, cor, 10, 24. Exe, 10, 10, 24. and 12, 37. Church as Anabaptists teach is 9 Antichristian.

If the beleening mothers child offend not, neither bee guilty of originall finne, as they reach, and bee holy as Scripture teacheth; then the child nuftneeds be of the fame Church with the mother. For of holy Churches is but one, and fo enery way Anabaptists erre.

As among circumcifed ones, among baptifed ones aged, nothing but actuall transgressions differnable by fense, did seperate from the Church and Family discernable by sense; much lesse should infants without actuall transgressions discernable by sense, seperate from the Church and Family discernable by sense.

As children for obedient Fathers sake in time of the Law, of carnal! Ordinances, the shadows of the Gospell were retained in the Church and family of Israel, and children for disobedient Fathers: sake were restrained from

the

the Family and Church of Israel.

So likewise is the condition of a Children in the time of the Gospell, the substance it selfe.

Whosoeuer of Christs Disciples doth receiue a x childe in his name, receiueth Christ; among which receiuers some had not so much as bodily y endowments: therefore by receiuing of a child here, is meant a receiuing into the Church visible.

Disciple in Christs name, bee a receiving into the Church visible, or into some endowments of the Church visible; then Children ought to be baptised, which is the least endowment of the Church visible: but by receiving of a Child by a Disciple in Christs name, is at least a receiving into the 2 Church visible, or into some a endowment of the Church visible, after receiving into the Church visible, after receiving into the Church visible,

Therfore Children ought to be baptised with water, and so received

uMat.19.13.14.
15.mar.10.13.
14.15.16.luke
18.15.16.17.
1.cor.7.14.
x Mat.18.5.

y Acts 3,6, 1.Cor., 11.

z Matth. 18.5. a Acts 8.17. Heb. 6.2. ceited into the Church, which is the least endowment of the Church visible.

If little children may receive the kingdome of God, the greater receipt, much more Baptilme of water the lesser.

But children may b receive the kingdome of God, the greater receipt.

Therfore children may receive Baptisme of water the lesser re-

ceipt.

If children may receive laying on of hands, the greater, then children may receive Baptisme of water the d lesser.

But children may receive laying on of chands the greater.

Therfore children may receive

Baptisme, the lesse:

The signes of Gods couenant with Israel his Church, before Christes manifestation in the sless, were Circumcisson, and the g Passeouer, both which tyed to certaine set dayes, both which observable in their Rites vnder paine

b Mark. 10.15. Luke 18.17.

c Mar._{10,14}, 15,16, act._{19.6} Heb.6,2⁷. d Act._{19.3,4},

e Mar. rc. 16.

f Gen. 17.10, 11,12. g Leu. 23.5. paine of being cut off from the

family of Israel.

The signes of Gods couenants with Christians his Church, sithence Christes manifestation in the slesh, as b Baptisme, and the Lords Supper, neither of which is tyed to any certaineset dayes, or enjoyned to be observed under any set paines, to my yet receited knowledge.

As the first signe of the Couenant before Christs manifestation in the slesh, diddretain in the Church or family of Israel, such obedient ones with their children, as at the Institution thereof were of the Church or family of

Ifrael.

And admit fuch as afterwards defired to be of the Family, together with their children, the males with the figne, the females without the figne, both for the fa thers take, and that without beliefe, or repétance manifestation

So the first signe of the Couenant sithence Christs manifesta-

a Gen.17.14. exed.12.19,

b Math, 3, 11. and 28, 19. c Mat, 26, 26, 27 mark, 14, 22. 23, luke 22, 14. iohu 13, 21.

d Gen, 17, 14.

e Exod, 12.48.

f Rom, 11.28,

tion

tion in the flesh, doth retaine in the Church or family of Christians, such obedient ones with their children, as at the Institution therof were of the Church or family of Christians, and admit such as afterwards defired to bee of the Church or family of Christians, together with their children males & females, receiuing the signe which children admitted for the fathers sake, and that without beleese or Repentance manisestation.

As the second signe of the Couenants before Christs manifestation in the sless, did preserve the whole family remaining in their houses from a present Judgment, which had the two side posts, and upper doore postes of the houses in which they did eate it, stricken with the blood thereof.

So the second signe of the Couenant sithence Christs manifestation in the slesh, doth preserve the whole family remaining in their

Exod. 12.7.13.

their houses from present Iudgements, which have their hearts sprinkled from an euill conscience with the g blood thereof.

As Circumcision of the slesh was a signe of Circumcision of the heart, and did retaine and admit into the family of Israel according to the slesh

cording to the flesh.

So Baptisme of water was a signe of Baptisme of the Holy Ghost, and doth retaine and admit into the family of Christ ac-

cording to the flesh.

As the Passeouer was a signe of the heauenly banquet before Christes manifestation in the sless, and to be kept in h remembrance of the great deliuerance out of Egypt naturals.

So the Lords Supper is a figne of the heauenly banquet fithence Christes manifestation in the sless, and is to bee kept in remembrance of the great deliuerance out of Egypt spirituals.

As the Passeouerk vnworthily solemnized before Christs mani-

D 2 festati-

g Heb.9.14. and 10.22.

h Exod, 12,26,

i 1.Cor.1 1.28. &c.luk.1.455.

k Numb,9.2,

1,1.Cor,11.27.

m Mat 28.19.

n Mat. 3.1,820, and 19.13.80, mar. 10.15280, acts 2.37,38-39 &c. & 16.14,15 o Gene. 12.1.

festation in the slesh.

So the Lords Supper 1 vnworthily folemnized fithence Christs manifestation in the slesh, is ex-

ceeding dangerous,

You must remember with mee that the Apostles were m sent to gather Churches, and therefore persons of yeres must be a taught and promise obedience, before either they or their children were baptized, aso Abraham was before either hee or his children were circumcifed, as in the example of Lydia, and the Iaylor, and not to the Churches established, whose children as formerly were received for their fathers with the fake into account Church, as were Abrabams children; of which the Anabaptistes by their reasoning seeme to bee as ignorant, as they are of the words Grafted and incorporated, mentioned in the Common prayer Booke, immediatly after the childe is baptized, not considering that there is a two fold graf-

ting and incorporating into the body of Christ, the one Poutward discernable by sense, and that by water wherewith lohn q baptifed, which doth graft and incorporate into the visible Congregation, and thereof makes a member, as Circumcision r of the flesh did.

The other grafting and incorporating inward discernable by vnderstanding, and that by the Holy Ghost and fire, which was that Baptisme wherewith Christ did baptize, which doth graffe and incorporate into the inuifible Congregation, and thereof makes a member, as circumcision of the theart did.

Which outward Baptisme wherewith lohn and other disciples did and doe baptize, graffe and incorporate into the visible Congregation, is that Baptisme grafting, and incorporating mentioned in the Common prayer Booke, and not that inward Baptisme wherewith Christ only, not man,

p Acts 19.1,2,3

q Matt. 3.11. acts 19.

r Exed, 12,442 to ST

Matt.3.1:1 acts 10.14. & 19.5.60

t Roma.29

may, doth baptize, graffe, and incorporate into the invisible

Congregation.

Tho I have showen you neither Command, nor Example in direct words for baptizing of Infants, yet by iust consequence I haue, which they in their Letter confesse but proue not, is one found course of arguing; and if they doe not so confesse, yet as by the former, so by these following reasons I affirme, that reasonings by iust consequence, comparing like with like is found reasoning.

Men must be baptised, washed with water, but at what time or age? whether in whole part, or what part appeares not otherwise then by consequence, and that from the Typicall washings among the ordinances of the Law; as baptifing of infants from circumcifing of infants, both as formerly-having one and the same vse; viz. to admit and retaine Children and elder ones during

obdience

1 Cor. 2.13.

obedience, according to the Letter.

Bread must bee eaten, Wine must be drunke in the Lords Supper. But whether Bread leauened, or vnleauened; Sacke, Claret, white wine, or any other kind appeares not otherwise then by consequence? Therefore the washing, Bread, and Wine must bee drawne from necessary consequence.

As to the making of a member of Christ visible and invisible is performance of Mans part, of

Gods part as formerly.

So to the manifestation of a member of Christ visible and invisible, by repentance & faith is performance of a Gods part, of b mans part; which men carnally eminded and destitute of the truth, conceine not, or seeme not to conceine, and thereby they d deceine others, as themselues also have beene deceined: And so much for answere to the said source first, and seuenth: viz.

D 4

Gen. 17.23. Deut 30.6. Mat. 3.11.

51 77 75

24 A & \$ 5, 3 f ... 2 tim 2, 25, 10h, 6.29, phil, 2, 29 col. 2, 12. b Mat. 3, 6, 8. & 21, 32. mar. 1. 15, a & c. 10h. 1, 16, & c. 10h. 1, 17, & 3, 16 c. 2, Cor. 4, 4. 1 Tim 6, 3, 10 6 d. 7, Tim 3, 13.

last particular Arguments.

From whence I come to reafon the said fift and fixt Arguments: viz. that knowne wicked men, that Antichrists spirituall bondage are not, nor can be the Church of Christ.

An answer to the Said fift and fixt Argument.

e Member or f members of A Christ, which is the & Church of Christ, consists of a visible and invisible h parte of a visible and invisible manifestation.

In which Church its visible manifestation, there hath, is, and shall bee wicked men, either in the i darkned, k enlightened, or l Apostate estate, having onely a forme of m Godlinesse, and yet in account of, and with the Saints which must continue in the Church till the n haruest of 23.14.&c. and 24,24.2 Cor. 11,13,14,15.2 Tim. 4,5, titus, 1.

e 1 Cor. 11.3. col. 1 .24. f (Cor.10.16. 17.812 12,86 g Eph 1,22,23, and 3.14.15. and 4,12. h Rom.7.18, 22,23,25. 2 Cor.4, 16, i Rom, 11.32. gal 3,22. acts 26.17,18. k Heb. 6.4. 5. 6.8c. and 10.26,27. ! Rom. 1,21.28 m Mar. 7.15. &

16. n Mat. 13. 18. to 51. 1 Cor 3.12.13.

their manifestation, by o temporall impenitency, or finall P A-

poltacy.

And so much also in answere to the fift and fixt Positions. By which is clearely manifest, that Antichristes spiritual bondage, wicked men, may be in account with the Church, though not of the Church.

In answere to their admonition, bidding you beware of taking up the unbeleeuing Iewes Example, and that bidding you beware, bids mee beware likewise: who as you was baptised an Infant and with that baptisme in respect of baptisme with water, (as you) doe content my felse.

And withall I freely confesse, and so I hope doe you, that I conceiue of no more considence in the slesh, then Paul did, when hee said, that he had no considence in the slesh; but the considence I have is in God, by and through Iesus Christ, and so I hope is

or Cor. 5.1.49 5.11. 2 cor.2, 6.7. 2 Thef. 3. 6.11. to f 6. p 1 lohn 2,19. 10h. 8,35. 2 Tim. 2,20. Mat. 13,10, to 24. 2. cor. 13, 12, &s.

Phil.3 .3 .

P lam. 1,17.

q 1 Cor.4.7. r lohn 6.29. phil. 1.29. col. 2,12. f Act. 5,31. 2 Tim. 2°25. yours also: yea, I freely confesse, and so I hope doe you, that enery good and perfect p gift is from aboue, that I have not any good thing but what thence I have greceived, whether Faith, so Repentance, &c. And so much in answere to that admonition, and all other particulars therein contained.

A few words touching the doftrine of Predestination and other truthes opposed by them, which though their Letter question them not, yet I suppose their seeds are sowen among you, so well by their Apostles, as bookes sent you.

Among many arguments arising from their understanding of Scripturs concerning that point, at this time onely one: and for sight and answer of the rest, I referre you to a little booke lately come foorth Anno 1 62 2. called Wisdomes Bounty to Heavenly Pilgrims, unmasking the Man of Sinne.

ARGVMENT.

TF God before-time did decree Land make men for destruction, then God would not bid fuch men repent, whom hee purposed to destroy.

But God bids all trepent. Therefore God did not decree. and make men for destruction.

t Ezek 18,23. mat_28:19. 2; pct.3.9.

ANSWER.

Maior, viz. That God I would not bid such men repent, whom hee purpofeth to destroy, I denie.

First, for that you cite not any Scripture in any of your Bookes

to proue it.

Secondly, for that your Major proposition crosseth multitude of divine Scriptures. For instance these: God did a tempt Abraham, and said vnto him, Take thy sonne Isaac, and offer him for a burnt offering.

a Gene, 22, E,

2,to 11.

Yet

bGen,22,11:12 c Exod 3.18. & 4. 22,23, & 7: 1.2. & c. 1.2, &c. & 10.3,4,5,&c. d Exod, 3.19. & 4.21, & 7.3, 4,13, & 9, 12, 16. & To,1.20, 27. & 11.9. & I 4.4. e Exod 8.1 59 32.80,34 f Exod, 20, 13, gen.9.6. g Gen. 22, 1,2, to II. h Num2 5,6, to 14. i Acts 2.22 & 4,27,28. zach. 13.7 reue. 13.8. k Exod. 20,14. I.cor.6.9. 1 2.Sam.12.11 deut 28:50. 10m.1.26,&c. m Roin 12.14 n 2.Sam 15. IO,II.

Yet afterward when Abraham was ready to flay his sonne, the Angell of the Lord called vnto him out of heaue, &c. & said, b Lay not thy hand vpon the lad, neither doe thou any thing vnto him, for now I knowe that thou fearest God, &c.

God by the mouthes of Moses and Maron bid Pharaoh let c Israel goe, yet the Lord said, But I will hardenhis heart, that he shall not

d let the people goc.

The Lord said, I will harden

Pharaobs heart.

Yet the Scripture saith, That Pharach chardened his heart.

God by his f Law forbids men

to kill.

Yet God commaunds g man to kill, h commends men for killing, and ordaines Christ to bee killed.

God forbids k vncleannesse, yet God giues men ouer 1 to vneleannesse.

God forbids m curling.

Yet God bidds a Shimei curse Denid. God God o forbids lying.

Yet the Lord is said to put a plying spirit in the mouthes of Ababi saile prophets.

God 9 sent leseph into Egypt, Yet the Scripture saith, that

his brethren fold, and fent him.

God forbids s Heresies.

Yer the Scripture saith, There to the Herefies.

God commands u obedience.

Yet the Scripture faith, * men were appoynted to disobedience.

By which appeareth, that God fometimes commands that to bee done, which he purposeth not to haue done, and forbids things to be done, which hee purposeth to haue done.

The end whereof, as in the former places is to trie man, and thereby to manifest to man his prouident Decree, Power, Wisedome, Loue, Hatred, Mercy, Iustice to obedient, and disobedient creatures, for the comfort of the one, and discomfort of the other.

God

o Ephe.4.25. col 3.9. reue. 21.8. p 1.Kin,22.23.

g Gen.45.5.

r Cen.37.27:

f Tit 3.10, t 1 Cor. 11.19

u Exod.20. x 1.Pet,2.8. x Phil, 1,12.

God bids man x worke out his faluation with feare and trembling.

y Isa, 26,12.

Yet it is God that y worketh all mans works in him, vic. works of grace.

z 16.1.16.

Godbids man z wash and make

a Ma, 4.4. Píal, 51, 2.7. Yet it is a God by and through his word and Spirit, which doth wash and make cleane.

b 2.Tim.2.21 1.Tohn 3.3. c Mal.3.2.3 It is faid in Scripture, that man doth purifie him.

d 1.Cor.5.7.

Yet it is the Lord that doeth purific.

e Mal.3.1.to 4. Hebr. 9.14. Mand is bid to purge out the old leauen.

f Deut. 10,16. Ierem. 4.4 Yet it is the Lord, the blood of Christ that doeth purge the Conscience from dead workes, to serue the liuing God.

g Deut.30.5. Psal,51.10. The Lord bids 1 man to circumcise his heart.

h Ez ck. 18.31.

Yet it is the g Lord that doeth circumcife the heart. The Lordbids h man make him

i Fzek.17.19. and 36.26. a new heart.
Yet it is the Lord i that maketh

mans heart new.

The Lord bids mank open his hearr.

Yet it is the Lord that lopens the heart.

I have begotten you, fayth the

m Apostle.

Yet it is God n of his owne will, that begets, &c. with many other like seeming variations, or contradictions.

As among naturall things fick man is faid to purge himselfe.

Yet it is the offensine meat and drinke immoderately taken, or the Physicians potion that purgeth mans body.

A Mill is faid to make good meale.

Yet it is the Miller makes it.

Meale is said to make good bread

Yet it is the Baker makes it.

As the licke man cannot relist or withstand the offensive meate. and drinke, and potions operation, the Mill and Corne the Millers grinding, the Meale, the Bakers k Cant 1.2. Reue. 3, 20.,

1 Acts 16.14. Reuel 37.

m 1, Cor.4.15. n lam.i.t & r. Pet. 1 .3.

Gen 18,14. Deat. 32.39. Ifa 50. 2. Mar. 19, 16. Rom. 9, 19.20. o Mar 12 324 Acts 7.51.

p [6,14.24.27. prou 1921. mal 3.6. Iam. I. 17.

kers making it bread: no more can finfull man relist Gods newe making him.

Though man is not onely faid to o resist the Sonne and Holy Ghost, but indeed doth resist the Sonne and Holy ghost; as a rebellious subject oftentimes doth his Princes Messengers and message, yet not relist, withstand, alter or change p the purpose, will, power, and decree of God the Father.

No more then a rebellious subiect can withstand, alter, or change the purpose, will, power, and decree of his Prince.

For an inferiour power cannot refist, withstand, alter, change, and ouerthrow the purpose, will, power, and decree of a superiour power.

As Adams finning, fo all his posteritie sinning, was and is either against the will of God, befides the will of God, or with the will of God.

To fay it was and is against the

will

will of God, it denies his power.

To fay it was and is besides the will of God, it denies his prouidence.

Therfore it must needs be with his will, though against his commaund delinered by his word, and

spirit, as formerly.

Hence then this question from vnregenerate men, hath and doth arise, viz q Why doeth God yet finde fault with man, viz. sinfull man, seeing it is the will of God man should sinne: which hath bin and is answered to such men.

Behold, in this thou art not inst: God is greater then man. Why doest thou striue against him? for hee giveth not an account of any of his matters; his sthoughts are not mans thoughts, neither his wayes, mans wayes: shall hee not doe with his owner what he will?

Nay but O man, who art thou that replyest against God? Shall the thing formed, say to him that formed it, Why hast thou made

m

q Rom.9.19.

r Iob 33,12,13

f Ifa.55.3.

t Mat. 20, 15.

u Rom.9.20,

mee thus? Hath not the Potter power ouer the clay, of the same lumpe to make one vessell vnto honour, and another vnto dishonour?

What if God willing to shew his wrath, and to make his power knowne, indured with much long suffering, the vessels of wrath sitted to destruction; and that hee might make knowne the riches of his glory on the vessels of mercy which hee had afore prepared

vnto glory,&c.

How ever vnregenerate men question the soundnesse of Gods dealing heerein, yet regenerate men withadmiration cry out and say, O the depth of the riches both of the wisedome and knowledge of God, how vnsearchable are his ludgments, and his wayes past finding out! For who hath knowne the mind of the Lord, or who hath beene his Councellor? or who hath first given him, and it shall bee recompensed to him againe?

For

x Rom.tr.

For of him, and through him, and to him, are all things, to

whom be glory for euer.

Though naturall man ought not so to question, yet God to free himselfe from iust imputation, and to leave vniust man without excuse, by his Sonne and Sons Apostles, answeres vniust man, saying, This is y condemnation, that light is come into the world, and men love darknes rather then light, because their deedes are evill.

Yee are of your father the Deuill, and the works of your father

you will doe.

That which may bee 2 knowne of God, is manifest in man; for God hath shewed it vnto him, for the innissible things of him from the creation of the world, are clearely seene being vnderstood by the things that are made, euen his eternall power and Godhead, so that they are without excuse: Because that when they knewe God, they glorified him not as E 2 God.

y Iohn 3.19. and 8.44.

z Rom, 1, 18, &c. God, neither were thankfull vnto him, but became vaine in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened, &c.

And even as they did not like to retaine God in their knowledge, God gaue them ouer to a reprobate minde, to doe those things which are not conucni-

cnt, &c.

Let no man say when hee is tempted, I am tempted of *God, for God cannot be tempted with euill, neither tempteth hee any man; but euery man is tempted, when hee is drawne away of his ownelust, and entised.

For when lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sinne, and sinne when it is finished, bringeth forth death. Doe not erre my beloued brethren.

Euery good gift, and euery perfect gift is from aboue, and commeth downe from the Father of lights, with whom is no variablenesse, or shadow of turning. Of his owne will begate he vs, with

the

* fames 1 .13, 14,8c.

the Word of truth, that wee should be a kinde of first fruits of his Creatures.

The better to understand this mistery, must be considered by viste state of the Creation in its puritie, among whom Angels and men each in their Creation very good. Among Angels some fell, bur not any of the Elect ones, and they after their Creation before their fall had not any euill, either within or without to tempt them; for whom therefore as a secondarie cause was not so much as a promise of a Redeemer, of a Redeemer, of a Redeemer.

Which Angels being fallen received the names of Divels, cuill ones among whom is an order, as in the order of the naturall or politicke body, consisting of superioritie and inferioritie, as appeareth, where it is said of Belzebub, that hee is the Prince of Divels, which Prince with his Subiccts being fallen, laboured and procured the fall of our first Pa-

E 3

Gen 1,31,

2 Pct. 2.4. lude 6.
1 Tim. 5.21.

Gen.3.14,15.
2 Pet.2.4.
lude 6.

Iohn 8,44. Iude 9. Reu-11.9.

Reu.20,10,

Mat 12.42, to 25, and 10, 25.

rents.

Mat.4,1,&c. 2 Cor.11,3. 1 Tim.2,14.

Gen.3.15.

rents, and thence called a Tempter, a Deceiuer of innocent man; which innocent man, though in his Creation; to the time of his fall had no euill within him to deceiue him, yet had hee euill without him, viz. All the Apostate Angels, by, and through whole temptations he fell not voluntarily; viz. Without enticement of others, but by constraint, euen by the subtile inticements of a Creature in excellency and eminency of creation about him, fpeaking in the person of a beast; and therefore as a fecondary cause had a promised Redeemer, a promised redemption by which as by many other Scriptures its plain that those Apostate Angels, & man being created were left to themselves devoid of their Creators protection preservation; otherwise they could not have fallen, but being so left, and having fuch aduerfaries, they could not chuse but fall lest they had beene Gods, equall with God. Tf

If men in the purity of their Creation left to themselues, denovd of their Creators protection, could not stand; how much lesse men now corrupted, left to themselues devoyd of their Redeemers protection, can stand, and withstand, not onely the Diuellandall reprobate Angels, but also his owne corrupt flesh, and whole world of the Diuels alluring and feducing feruants; by which is likewise plaine, tho God be the author of all actions; yet it is the 2 Diuell not God. who is the author, moouer and finisher of the euill of euery action of man: and man for affenting and ioyning in the said actions against the b Law, and c Gospell of God made knowne vnto them, stands condemned so well in the first as second death, and not for opposing the decree of God, for of that they are altogether d ignorant, and so cannot oppose it.

Which Law of God in mans

Ephel.6,12.

Mat, 24.24.

a Gen.3, 1.10h, 8.44. and 13,2. 27. iam.1, 13.

b Gen. 2.17. &

3,2,3, rom 7, 7, to 15, c (ohn 3, 19, rom 1,18, 19, 20,21,28, 2, thef.2,10,heb, 6,4,5,6,& 10, 26,&c, 2 Fez, 2,20,&c, lad,

dRo411.35.24

e Gen.2, 15,17 f Pfal.127,&co and 119,359 47:54572:77.92 97.95,100,105, Heb.3,10,11, &10,16, 1 lohn 5,30 innocency according to e Creation, and f Regeneration was, and is the rule of mans felicitie; which rule in mans corruption is the Rule of mans miserie, and continued to make knowne to corrupt man a creature, pure God'a Greator; to impromident man a creature, prouident Goda Creatori; to weake man a creature, poweifull God'a Creator; to'vnwise man a creature, wise God a Creator: to vinkind and ynthankefull man a creature, kind, louing, and boundfull God a Creator; to vninit and vnmercifull man a creature. Just and mercifull Goda Creator:

Its safe reasoning for Gods Atributes, viz: Prouidence, Will, Power, Wisdome, Loue, Mercy, Instice.

Dangerous reasonning against them, as Anabaptists and other like, in the pride of their owne Attrybutes doe therefore of such reasonings and reasoners beware; least by the gman of Sin,

g 2 Thel. 2.3.

the sonne of perdition, &c. whose comming is after the working of Sathan, with all power, & signes, and lying wonders, and with all deceineablenesse of vnrighteousnesse you be deceined with them, that perish because they receive not the lone of the trueth; that they might bee saued; for which cause God shall send them strong delusions, that they should believe a lye, that they all might be damned, who believe not the truth, but had pleasure in vnrighteousnesse.

If God did foresee the end of

If God did foresee the end of enery creature before hee made them, and that some creatures shall bee destroyed, some saued, then God made some creatures to be destroyed, some to be saued.

But God foresaw the end of cuery creatures before hee made them, and that some of them shall bee destroyed, some saued, and so much in their Bookes themselues confesse.

Therfore God made some creatures

a John 6.64. acts 15.18. rom 3.29. and 11.2. hebr.4.3. 1.pet.1.2. b 1.Pet.2.3. 2.pet.2.12. inde 4. c Act.13.48. rom.8.28,29, 30.eph.1.155.

d Ephe. 1.11. e Prou 19.21. ifa. 14.24,27. mal. 3.6. iam. 1.17.

f Rom. 8.29. ephe. 2.10. and 4.24.

g Gal 3.39.

tures to be b destroied, some to be claued.

If God worketh all things after the power of his owne will, and that he is vnchangeable, then all creatures come to that ende for which they were made and ordeined.

But God worketh all things after the Councell of his downer will, and he is evnchangeable.

Therefore all creatures come to that end, for which they were

made and ordained.

If God did predestinate such as he foresaw should be heires of saluation, to become conformable to the Image of Iesus Christ, then such onely who are so conformed shall be heires of saluation.

But God did predestinate such as he foresaw should be heires of saluation, to become conformable to the Image of Iesus Christ

the fonne.

Therefore fuch onely who are fo conformed, shall bee heires of g faluation.

Which

Which trueths to oppose, you may if God please plainely see, is an opposition of the foreknowledge, wisedome, and power of God.

The serious consideration wherof wil stop the mouthes & hearts,
and rouse from carelesse securitie
all beleeuers of saluation, of condemnation, lest such as are foreordained to h condemnation, who
after light is come vnto them,
loue darknesse rather then light,
because their deedes are euil,
though Anabaptistes deny the
same.

As at the k Author of all truths, fo at these & many other 1 truths, many stumble and fall eternally, from which I beseech God, for Christ Iesus sake, to free you all.

By your m sanctification, you shall know your effectuall n vocation; by your vocation and sanctification, you shall know your effection: not otherwise, for many are p called, but sew chosen.

h 2.Pet.2.12.

i Ioh 3,19,10m 1,28,2,thef.2, 10,11,12,

k 162.9.14.luk. 2.34. 10m,9.32 1 pet 2.7. 1 Rom. 9.13. to 23.1.pet.2.8. 2.pet 3.16 m 1 Cor.6.11 n Rom 8,28. or Pet. 1.20 p Mat 20,16. Read Doctor Hughes Sermon of this yere, on Act 24 16 dedicated to the Lord Keeper

And

And so much at this time for the doctrines of Predestination in Election, and Reprobation before time, and manifestation thereof to the sonnes of men in time.

That you be not deceived, remember the 9 Prophets, r Christ Iesus the Prince of Prophets, his faithfull [Apostles, their admonitions, and know for certaine, that as skilfull Fishers, and cunning Fowlers bayte their gynns with what is good and wholefome for Fish and Fowle, and thereby doebetray both Fish and Fowles into their gynns; fo doe cunning deceiuers t bayte their errours with what is good and wholesome for soules of men, and thereby doe betray the foules of men, which otherwise could not be betrayed, lesse they were more insensible then Fish and Fowle.

You may if God will, remember, that godlinesse is a umysterie, yea a x great mysterie, which

q Tere.23, 11.
t0.40, mal.2.1.
t0.17.
t Mat.7.15.&
16.11.12.& 24.
24.luke 8.18.
f Ads 20.23.
2.Cor. 11.13,
14.15. (al.1.8,
9.1 thef.s.27.
r iohn 4.1.

t Therefore called by the Holy ghost a mystery of iniquitie, 2 Thes. 27.

u 2 Cot.2,7. ephe.3.9. x 1 Tim.3.16.

2 na-

a naturall man receiveth not : for it is foolishnesse vnto him: neither can hee'y know it, because it is spiritually discerned, which multitudes of enlightned zones love not therefore not so easie to bee attained vnto (though a teaching Anabaptist to mee lying in my ficke bedd, and much troubled in the confideration of these differences, otherwise affirmed in these wordes, viz. That Predestination and Baptisme were so eafie to be vnderstood, as that a naturall man might plainely difcerne them) and the truth is, the Predestination, and Baptisme which they maintaine, is so easie to bee understood and discerned. as they affirme, viz. that a naturall man may discerne them; witnesse the multitudes of their disciples receiving them, and groffe ignorance in maintaining them, or any other mysterie in the Gospel, and more carelesse, and more vnchristian-after walking, &c. according to those descriptions of

y I Cor. 2.14.

z Iohn3.19. 10m,1,28. 2,thef.2,10. * Rom.2.77,00 25. 25m.3.7, &c. 2 Pet.2.1, &c. iude 3.&c.

ler, 5, 15.

a Mat.7.14.

b ler. 6, 16. mat. 23: 253: t thef. 5, 21. t iohu 4, 1. of such men long sithence laid downe in holy * Writ for the Saints information and admonition.

Among the many waies suppofed to lead towards heauen. The goodway is onely one, and that way is the old way, a a narrow way which brings rest to the soules of them that walk therein.

Therefore according to the Prophets, Christ Iesus, and the Apostles counsels, Stand in the wayes and b inquire for that way, and walke therein, and you shall sind rest for your soules; in which enquiry observe this method: viz. Among Teachers and people taught in each way.

T Observe their severall do-Arines and produced proofes, in which whether they tend to the crucifying of the slesh, with the

affections and lusts.

2 The qualifications of such as they admit into memberhood, and the manner of such admittance.

3 The

3 The causes and manner of their Excommunication and Abfolutions.

4 The Quallifications, Elections, Admissions, Inductions, of their Dispensators, Administrators in order among them.

5 The Excommunications, & Absolutions passed vpon men in that order, causes, and manner thereof.

6 The generall behauiour of their Dispensators and people dispensed vnto both in Church and common meetings.

7 Their particular betraying policies for enlargement of their

kingdome.

Euery of which for the helpe of memory, after enery meeting to record in paper, vnder its per-

ticular proper head.

And thereupon prepared by c Prayer, to repayre to the d Law and testimonie, the touchstone to try the same. And to learned e Elders appointed by God to helpe you in that tryall, and so

c Ephele 13. 1 thef < 17: d Isa. 8, 20.

e Mal 2 1.2,10 10,acts 2. 37.

much

much at this time for the meathod of observation and tryall: with a Reference for your further direction to a Booke printed this yeare, entitled the Unmasking the Man of Sinne

f rom.9,20,21, 22,2 tim.2,20 g 1 Pct. 1,21

h 1 Pet. 1.5.

As to deny the Doctrine of Predestination, viz: Gods 3 fore-knowledge, forcordination, in creation of some to honour, of some to dishonour, and h preservation of them according to the said ordination is a deniall of the wisdome, power, and vnchangeablenesse of God.

So to deny Children to bee Christians, as they doe, is to deany the mercy and instice of God, and sufficiency of Christs Sacrisice, as afterward is manifestly declared.

If Children dye before actuall finnes, they must bee either faued or damned.

If damned it denies the morey and suffice of God, which saith; The source that sunct is the source shall not be are the iniquity

i Ezc. 18.4.20.

quity of the Father.

If faued it denies the sufficiencie of Christs Sacrsice, in mainetaining saluation without & Christ.

By their bookes, and reasonings, they likewise affirme, that a liustified, regenerate man, become one m spirit with the Lord, may be cut off from the body of Christ, fall away and bee damned; by which likewise they deny the power of God, in and othrough the Faith of Iesus Christ, the P faithfulnesse of God and 9 Christ, the testimo. nies of holy r Scripture, the f confessions of the Saints, and the comforts of a Christian in life and death, leduing him no assurance of enioying Eternall life, or escaping eternall death.

Whether euer men (at least) were more grossely blind, or at most more grossely wicked, more deepely drowned in the Mysterie of iniquitie, then so to deny the fore-knowledge,

vledge,

k John 14.6.
act., 10,11,12,
1,10hn 2,2,
1,11m,4.10,
1 Rom. 5,10,
1,10hn 3,9,
and 5,18,
m 1. Cor. 5,17,

n Ephe.1.11.
1. pet.1.5.
0 Gal.2.20.
p Iere.32.40.
q Iohn 6:39.44
r Iohn 8:35.
mat.24.24.
1 iohn 3.9.&
5.18.
(Rom.7.24.25
& 8.2. 24111.4
7.8:18.

t 2 The . 2.7.

reuel 17.5

power, wisdome, mercy, iustice, faithfulnesse of Father, Sonne, and holy Ghost, testimonies of holy Scriptures, confessions of the Saints, comforts of Christians in life and death, as their positions and reasonings doe: let God the Father, Sonne, and holy Ghost, the former Saints, and their divine Testimonies bee Judge betweene vs.

u Ads 17.30.

* Acts 26.13.

x 2 Tim. 2. 25. 26.

y Pfal. 51.4. z Nom. 5.6. prou. 28.13. mat. 5.23. 12m. 5.16.

Wherefore if it be of u ignotance I beseech God for Christ Iesus sake to open their * eyes, and by Christ Iesus to give them repentance to the knowledge of the x truth, that they may recouer themselues out of the snares of the Diuell, who are taken captine by him at his will, and that repentance by inward and outward confessions to y God, to z Man, whom they have offended among men. The whole Church of England and all other Churches practifing and maintaining baptizing of Infants with water into the Church, the visible body

of Christ in time of the Gospell: as circumcising of Infants with Circumcision of the flesh into the Church of Christ, the visible body of Christ in time of the Law to the whole nuber of such living ones, which by their betraying practises they have deceived.

With promised resolution in a heart and mouth to liue b holyly and righteously their remaining daies, intreating withall the Saints to ioyne with them by prayer to God in the d Name of Iesus Christ for pardon, with considence to be heard, and the like repentance to be performed by those betrayed by them, which have no more immunitie by being betrayed, therefield our first f Parents Adam and Eue, and I-fraels betrayed & Posteritie.

If it bee of wilfull malitioufnes against their received knowledge of the truth, then to labour to proceede no further in their h deceivings, that so their torments in Hell may be the i lesser.

2 Which

a Deut. 6.4.5. b Lüke 1.74.

clam, 5,14,15.
16.
dloh, 14,13,14
elam, 1,5.

f Gen.3. 4 g Eze,3.18.20. and 33.8.

h 2 Tim, 3.9, i Reu, 18.6.7. and 20.3. Anabaptisme

68

Which that it may the better appeare vnto them, whether it be fo or not, there is contained in the following Tractate, a Defcription of the finne against the Holy ghost, by which to trie themfelues.

FINIS.



A

DESCRIPTION

OF THE SINNE A-GAINST THE HO-LY GHOST,

Which Description, upon
Request was written for one
afflicted in Conscience,
Doubting of being in
that Sinne.

And now published not onely for that afflicted one, but for the Benefit of all others so afflicted, or subject to like assured.

LONDON,

Printed by A.M. for George Winder, and are to bee fold at his Shop in Saint Dunstons Churchyard. 1622.



To his beloued and affected Sifter, A. G. freedome from the faid affliction, in and for the Lord Iesus heartily desired.



Cording to Gods commaund, haz uing by his mercie passed tho=

rough such and other like mi= 2.Cor, 1.3,4. series, wherein you yet re= maine; a written (opie wher= of which I gave to a Gentle= man, for the comfort of his wife now lying in the same miseries,I haue here sent on= to you for your comfort, toge= ther with a description of the

linne

Luke 24.45. cphc.1.18. Actes 16.14.

Reac.3.7.

2. Cor. 13.5.

sinne against the Holy ghost, That according to your de= fire, and my own promise, ear= nestly desiring God the Father, for Christ Tesus sake, that your understanding, as sometimes the Apostles, and Lidias were, may bee so ope= ned(by him that openeth and no man (hutteth) in the on= derstanding of the forenamed sin, as thereby to your everla= sting comfort, you may be en= abled, cleerely to examine, try, and discerne your present condition.

> Your wel-wishing Christian Brother, daily praying for your establishment in the Lord Iesus.

> > 1. P.



M.I.



Ccording to your defire, and my own promise, I have condered my heads infirmitie, the be-

ginning, continuance, and I hope in God, the end therof, which for for your wifes better aduantage, I haue in part related, that thereby she may discerne, whether hers bee the same, or in some resemblance like the same, and accordingly thereunto, to vse, or not to vse, such helping remedies hereafter mentioned, as my selfe haue vsed: for as diseases differ, so doe remedies likewise; for that which is a remedy in one disease, is oftentimes the contrary in an other disease, &c.

My disease was a deprination

of the vse of Iudgement, euen in the most inferiour things, viz. enen in ordinary & necessary prouiding of food and apparel; much more, a deprivation of the vse of Iudgement in superiour things, in so much as I was ashamed, and afraid to bee in any company, especially in understanding company; yea many times both on horfe and foot, to anoyd meeting with such company, I have trauelled my les out of the ready accustomed wayes, yea many times many howers at a time, both in bed, and on my chaire haue I lien and fate musing about I knewe not what. Which infirmitie was accompanyed with a burning heat at my heart, a swelling at my stomacke, as if my bowels would issue foorthat my mouth; with a running wind betweene my flesh and skin, ouer all parts of my body, resting a more or lesse time at a place euer longest in my head, and then founding fomtimes like a rushing wind among trees in a wood,

wood, sometimes like water falling from the wheele of a Mill, fometimes like Bees in a hine, and sometimes like a master Bee. preparing for the time of swarming, & that fo loud, as I thought persons present with mee might heare the same: which infirmity was likewise accompanied with fuch closenesse and costinenesse of body, as constrained mee to vse violent meanes for enacuations, as by fweat, fo otherwise, accompanied withall with a very immoderate appetite, eating much, yet not satisfied, wearing many clothes, yet thereby feldome warmed, accompanied with multitudes of fearefull Dreames, and restlesse nights, rising in the morning so faint and weary, as on the end of a long and paintfull iourney; yea, in my waking times, both in day and night accompanied with multitude of reftlesse feares, inwardly yexed at others mirth, and private by conference, supposing it to bee at

my miserable foolishnesse. Which disease in humane judgement originally grew, through a feare taken, at my age of about seauen or eight yeares, when being at the Schoole, I was scised upon as a Ward, and violently carriedaway from both Master and Mother, threatned withall to bee carried in a Truncke or Clokebagg; and so held from my friends till a quarter of a yeare or vpwards, when my Mother againe redeemed me: which infirmitie increased through the violent abuses of a person, which for auoyding of offence, I forbeare to name. - Which disease continued through immoderate study, separation from moderate exercise. and humane focietie, with immoderate vse of Phisicke, and immoderate caring for the things of this life, as Riches, Honours, and the like, which suffered not any comfortable heauenly meditationto rest in me.

These as a taste of the misera-

ble communicants in my sustained miseries: the continuance whereof from its beginning endured from my foresaid age, till about Christmas last, but in its height about twentie yeares, ended as aforesaid, but with some intermissions, of a quarter, halfe, and once a whole yeare from its height of extremitie.

The meanes of Phisicke I have vsed, in sweating, purging, cupping, Blistring, Bleeding, Bathing, and what not, are almost

infinite.

The tormenting paine thereof, (hope of ease set apart) insupportable. The costes and loss in worldly endowments by that Infirmitie sustained, thousands of pounds at least, without being able certainly to relate the least freedome from that infirmitie thereby.

Onely thus, the reported excellency of my Physician, and Phisicke, before its vsing, as afterwards, haue fomtimes giuen see-

ming

ming ease onely, not otherwise, and that the vimost commendation I can give of all the Phisick I have yied for this infirmitie.

Howfoeuer this bodily Phisick hath not advantaged in yeelding me certaine ease, yet oftentimes by Gods mercy I have had for a more or lesse time certaine ease.

Sometimes through the focietie of others in the same assistion, and of others formerly deli-

uered out of the same.

Luke 8.43. and 13.11. iohn 5.5,

Sometimes by consideration of persons delivery from infirmities and other afflictions after many yeares durance, I haue receiued certaine case, sometimes for a more, sometimes for a lesse continuance. Once after a Dreame violently coallicting with death, in which conslict, at least a seeming rushing wind arising from my inferior parts, to both heart, ftomacke, and head; putting to my then seeming, a finall end to my dayes on earth: immediately after which dreame and traunce being

being ouer, I received perfect ease for neere a yeares continuance together, with much stregth and abilitie both in body and minde, being immediatly before much payned, faint, and weake both in body and minde, as in the precedent lines I have related.

Oftentimes, when in great worldly troubles being called to appeare before Authoritie, and reasoning with my selfe whether not to goe, and so come vnder contempt, and subject to fine and imprisonment; or to goe and fo come vnder judgement of beinga foole, and not onely subject to have my discended Inheritance begged from mee, but also to be: come a by-word of disgrace, and that not onely for a dayes continuance, but during life, resting euen between hope and despaire of being able either to remember or speake what might make for my iust defence; yet presently at the instant time of appearing, and during the time of hearing onely no longer, receiving absolute freedome from my infirmity, and competent defired abilitie, both to remember, and speake, in my inst desence, together with a contented gracious hearing.

Sometimes immediately after ferious confideration of the errors of my wayes, viz. pride, lust, conetousnesses, and other steshing honour, riches, and other steshing contentments, and resolution to alter and change my affections & actions, receiving perfect ease and freedome, with a continuance, till pride, lust, and conetousnesses again renewed, no longer.

The issue whereof by Gods mercy, bringing me with sometimes miserable lob, to a cleare sight of my ignorant blindnesse, and absolute mabilitie, in and of my selfe both to speake and doe any kind of good, and that freely to confesse to hopefull persons

fearing God, desiring their prayers together with me to God, for

deliuerance from the said sinnes,

Inb 42,1,2,5,

and all other, which were no leffe then innumerable, as also deliuerance from my said infirmitie, of which infirmitie I now rest absolutely freed, and so have done sithence Christmas last, praised bee God for it, and so I hope I shall continue to the end of my dayes.

The fecondary cause of bodily and spirituall infirmitie, I finde

tobe a sinne.

The secondary remedies, I find to bee b repentance from sinne, ioyned with saith in or towards God.

And so much by Gods speciall assistance, through your instance, and my bounden duity, I thought good to relate, for the comfort of your wife resting in the same trouble, wherein my selfe formerly haue been, beseeching God for Christ Iesussake in his good time to give her the like deliverance, and in the meane time, patience in the meanes to waite for the same.

a Deut. 28.

b 10b 42.1.to
17.2.king.20.
1.&c.mark.9.
29.lam.5.14,
15,16.&c.
c Mark.9.23.
& 11.22,23,&c.
d 2 Cor.1.3,
4,&c.

12.3

1 12 11

1

12 × 100 1.

- '



A Description of the Sinne against the Holy Ghost.



Hich Sinne is discouered, Hebr. 6.
4, 5, 6. wherein are related divers common gifts, or works of the spi-

rit: common I call them, because the a Reprobate so well as the Elect, haue had, & may haue them: which common gifts or workes there expressed, are in number flue, viz.

1. Enlightning.

2. Talting of the heauenly gift.

Pertaking of the Holy Ghost.

G 2 4.

a Mat.7.22. and 24.24. 1.cor. 13.1,2,3. 4. Tasting the good word of God.

And powers of the world to come.

The vnderstanding of which fiue gifts or works of the spirit, are opened and unfolded by other Scriptures, as in these following lines, to fuch as haue received, or are made capable to receive the knowledge of those gifts, or works of the spirit, may plainely appeare.

As our first parents by b transgression, lost to themselves and their posteritie their spirituals fight, knowledge, vnderstanding of God, and his loue, as appeareth by their flying from God, and labouring to hide their nakednesse from God, by figg leaues, and trees of the garden, and excusing themselues by accusing God, and one another.

And Cayn their first sonne, like labouring, after he had flaine his brother Abel answering God(asking him where his brother was)

saying,

b Rom 3.2.800 & 5 18.ephe. 7. 18. & 2.1,2,3, 12. 84. 17,18.

c Gen.3.7. žO 13.

saying, Idknow not, am I my brothers keeper? as if God in his judgement faw, and vnderstood, as man, no otherwise then with bodily eyes and eares.

So stood, and stands the cause of naturally blinded Iew, and Gentile, both in judgement and practise, as appeareth, where it is said, Heare yee indeed, but evnderstand not, and see yee indeed, but perceiue not, &c.

They seeke s deepe to hide their counsels from the Lord, and their workes are in the darke, and they fay, Who feeth vs, who knoweth vs ?

Euery man is bruitish in his owneg knowledge, there is none that h vnderstandeth, none that seeketh after God: there is no feare of God before their eyes. God hathi concluded themall in vnbeliefe.

The scripture hath cocluded kall k Gal.3.22, vnder vnder sin, that the promise by faith of Iesus Christ, might be giuen to them that beleeve.

The

d Gene 4.9.

e Isa,6.9.

f 162,29,15.

g lere. 10, 14. and 51.17. plal.49.20. h Rom, 3.99 &cc. i Rom. 11.32.

The truth whereof in my owne person and experience haue I found, who in finning haue thought my selfe safe enough, so long as it were not committed in presence of one, whom I supposed to professe the name of God in finceritie; and being found in the act of sinne, I have with Adam and Eue laboured to excuse my felfe, by faying, such a companions temptation drew me into it, otherwise I had not so offended.

Witnesse likewise the customary confessions of Prisoners at the Bairs of Iustice in euery age; and so as formerly, all remaine till God by Iesus Christ doth lenlighten theirvnderstäding, which by our first parents transgression as formerly, were so darkened, resemblatively as a man that hath a Vilme ouer his fight, by reason whereof he sees not, yet his eyes and fight still remaines, as appeareth where it is said, that There is a spirit in man, and the inspiration of the Almighty giveth them understan-Their

First gift of the Spirit, viz Enlightning. 1 Tit. 3.3. to 8. ephe 1 .17, 18.

1ab 32,8.

dino.

Their eyes were opened, and they knew him.

He opened their understandings, & 6.

The Apostle was sent to the Gentiles, to open their eyes, and to turne them

from darknesse to light, &c.

The eyes of your understanding being enlightned, that ye may know what is the hope of his calling, and what is the riches of the glory of his inheritance among the Saints, &c.

After yeewere illuminated, yee en-

dured a great fight of afflictions.

I have heard of thee by the hearing of the eare-but now mine eyes fee thee.

This inspiration opening the eyes; the vnderstanding illumination is that achlightning the first of the said fine gifts or works of the spirit, which enlightning bringing a man to the knowledg of the innishbleb things of God, that is to say, his eternal power and Godhead, Gods c Lawes, his own trasgression of those lawes, and independents due for the same, and makes them crie out, what they shall doe to be saued. And so G 4

Luke 24.31.

Ver.45. Actes 26.18.

Ephe. 1.18,19, &c.

Hebr. 10.32.

Iob 42.5.

a Hcb.c.4.

b Rom. 1.19,

c. Actes 2.37. and 9.18. and 16.30. & 19.18. rom.7.9. to 15. Second gift of the Spirit, viz. The heatienly

gift. d Rom. 12.5. I cor. 12.5. to 12.28.29. & I 3. 1,2. & 2.11.13, 14, 15. mat. 7. 22. & 24.24. ephe. 2.7. to 12. phil. 1,29.

e Acts 531. 2.tim,2.25.

f Iohn 1.16.& 15.5.1 cor.1. 50.& 12.4.ephe. 4.7.gal.2.20. 1.iohn 5.9.

g Hebr. 6.1,2.

h Hebr. 6.4,

much for the first gift, or work of the Spirit, viz. Enlightning.

Secondly, of the second gift, or worke of the Spirit, viz tasting

of the heavenly gift.

Of heavenly gifts, viz. d gifts of the spirit of God, (and therefore heavenly) are many; among which giftes of the spirit, these, viz the word of Wisedome, the word of Knowledge, Faith, Gift of healing, Working of miracles, divers kind of Tongues, Interpretation of Tongues, &c. e Repentance, Remission of sinnes, &c. of all which Christ is the Fountaine, from whence every of the said heavenly gifts are derived to the sonnes and daughters of men.

Among which diuersitie of of gifts, that gift knowledge, and beliefe of the doctrines of the Gospell, viz. g Repentance from dead workes, &c. is the second of the said h fine particular gifts, or workes of the spirit, as appeareth by the Apostles answere to the inqui-

inquiry of those enlightned ones what to doe, and that prefently vpon their enlightning, faying, Repent and bee baptized every one of you in the name of lesus Christ for the remission of sinnes; as by other places among which these.

Remember the former dayes, in Heb. 10.32,36. which after ye were illuminated, ye in-

dured a great fight of afflictions.

Tee have need of patience, that after nee have done the will of God, (viz. repented) ye might receive the promise.

Bring foorth fruit meet for repen-

tance, G.c.

Iohn came to you in the way of righteousnesse, and ye beleeved him not, but Publicanes and Harlots beleeved him, and yee when yee had seene it, repented not afterwards, that yee might beleene bim.

Except yee repent, yee shall all like-

mise perish.

In meeknesse instructing those that oppose themselves, if Godperaduenture will give them repentance, to the acknowledging of the truth, and that they may recover themselves out of the (nares

Actes 2. 38.

Matth. 3 8

Matel 21,37.

Luke 13.3.5.

2 Tim, 2, 25, 26,

snares of the Deuill, who are taken captrue by him at his will.

Leaning the principals of the doctrines of Christ, let vs goe on vnto perfection, not laying again the foundation of i Repentance from dead works &c.

Among the chiefe Rulers k ma. ny beleeued on him, viz. his preachings to be true, but because of the Pharifes, they did not confesse him, lest they should be put out of the Synagogue; for they loued the praise of men more then the praise of God, one of which was 1 Nicodemus that came to less by night, faying vnto him, Rabbi, we know thou art a Teacher come from God; for no man can doe those myracles which thou dost, except God be with him.

Among which doctrines of Christ preached vnto them, and beleeved of them, Repentance was the first, as appeareth where it is said, From that time Iesus began to preach, faying, m Repent, for the kingdome of heauen is at hand,

m Mat. 1.17.

i Hebr. 5, 1,2,

k Ioha 12.42.

lohn z. I.z.

hand, whose preachings were accompanied with many and sun-

dry myracles.

Which second succeeding gift or worke of the spirit, viz Repentance is a a change of affections, and actions, viz. a turning from the power of o Sathan to God; from dead p works, to serue the liuing God, viz. from a couering of finnes, to a 4 confessing of sinnestor Elders, to receive instruction what to doe, and helpes in prayer to God, for power to doe, and pardon vpon doing, to brethren offended, viz from offending a brother; to a hearty reconciliation to a brother, and that by confessing, and restoring of wrongs done to a brother: which reconciliation with a brother, is understood by the word u clearing, washing, putting away the xeuill of doings from before the eyes of the Lord, y cleanfing of hands, purifying of hearts,&c. for that euery brother in 2 Christ, is a one with Christ.

n 2 Cor 7.1 1. o Acts 26.18. p Heb. 9.14. g Prou. 28, 13 r Mal 2.7 mat 3.5. acts 2 37. & 19.13. iam_5.14,15,16 f Mat 5.23,24, 25. luke 17.4. t Pro.3.27, according to the law, Exo. 22.1. &c.leui 6 2 &c. nche s:11 eze. 33.14. according vato Samuel & Zacheus their example, i Sam 12.2 luk. 10.8. according to Christs general command, mat. 7.12.agreeable with Den 22 1. 8cc. u 2.Cor. 7.11. x 16a, 1.16.&c. y . Iam . 1.8.

z loh 14.20,23

a loh 17,22,10

25 1 COT, 6, 17.

* lohn 10,30.

Christ, and Christ * one with God: therefore every sinne against God, is against a brother in Christ, and must bee confessed to Brethren in Christ, as for reconciliation, so to receive instruction, Edification, Exhortation, and comfort from Brethren: with which clearing, viz. Confession, Restitution, Reconciliation, are accompanied these following particular works of change, viz.

a Mar. 5.23,24,5 25.luke 17.4.

Commaunded.

b Toel 1.11. and 2.13.

c Toel 2. 1,10. mat. 10.2 8. phil. 2. 12.

d ler.4.8.iocl.
2.12.luk.15.24.
hebr.5.7.
* Rom 8.7.

From a carnal louing of our solues.

To 2 spirituall b disdaining of our selues.

From not being afrayde of Gods indgements.

To a c feare of Gods iudgements.

From a vehement desire to sinne.

To a vehement d defire of pardon for finne.

From zeale * a.

Practifed.

b Pfal.38.7. & 33.22.iob 42.6. lerem. 31.19.

c Exod. 14 3.1. & 19. 16. 86 20. 18.19. deut.9. 19. 1. chron. 21. 30. iere. 30.557.

d Pfal,6,1,&

gainst

Commaunded.

e Reuel 3, 19. hebr. 12.1.4.

f Leuir 16.29.

31, and 23.32.

iocl 2, 13.

iames 4.2

gainst Gods lawes.

To e zeale for Gods lawes.

From pleasing & pampring our flesh by excesse of apparell, dyet, vaine pleasure, wanton company.

To taking f re- f 2, Sam, 12, 16 uenge against our ps. 69.10,11. flesh, not onely by denying it excesse of apparell, dyet,

vaine pleasure, wanton company, but also by pressing our bodies to meaner apparell, meaner diet, yea sometimes for a more or lesse time, to absolute abstinence from all kinds of food, to forrowing and mournfull company; as plainly appeareth by the Scriptures on the left hand, shewing the Command; and Scriptures on the right hand, shewing the Practife.

And so much for that second gift or worke of the spirit, viz: knowledge and beliefe of the do-

ctrine

Practifed. e Exo : 32 10. numb.25.7,8. pfal 69,9- and 1 19 130, iere, 23,9,10,11.

Third gift or worke of the Spirit, viz. Partaking of the holy Ghoft, a John 7.17.

b Matth.3.6, acts 19.18,19, 20.

c Gal, 3, 3, and 4.14, 15, 15, & 5.7, mat, 13, 20, 1 tim, 1,5, 19.

d Heb.10.28, 29, 2 pet 1.4. &c. and 2.13. &c. iud.1.12. Arine of the Gospell, namely, repentance, &c.

Thirdly, of the third gift or work of the spirit, viz. Pertaking of the holy Ghost, which is not onely a resolution to repent, but also a beginning of the practise thereof, as appeareth where it is

said.

Many that beleeved, became and confessed and shewed their deeds. Many of them also which wsed curious Arts, brought their books together, and burned them before all men, and they counted the prise of them, and sound it siste thousand pieces of silver: so mightily grewe the Word of God, and prevailed.

Are ye so c soolish, having began in the shrit? are ye now made persett by the steps? yee did runne well, who did hinder you that you should not obey the

truth?

He that despised d Moses Law, died without mercy: of how much sorer punishment shall bee bee worthy of who hash troden under foot the Son of God, and hath counted the blood of the Conenant,

uenant, wherewith hee was fan Elified, an unholy thing, and hath done despite unto the spirit of grace.

And so much for that third gift or worke of the Spirit, viz. Perta-

king of the holy Ghost.

Fourthly, of the fourth gift or work of the Spirit, viz. the good word of God, which is the comfort of the holy Ghost, in obeying the doctrine of the word, which is sweete and comfortable to obeyers, as appeareth where it is sayd:

The Statutes of the Lord art right, ereioycing the heart, &c. More to bee desired are they then golde, yeathen much fine gold, sweeter also then hony and the hony combe: moreover, by them is thy servant warned, and in keeping of them there is great reward.

I have trioyced in the wayes of thy Testimonies, as much as in all riches.

I will g delight my selfe in thy Sta-

Thy h Testimonies are my delight, and my Counsellers.

Make me to goe in the path of thy

Fourth gift of the Spirit, viz. Tailing of the good word of God.

e Plal.19.8,9,

f Pfal, 119.14.

g Ver. 16.

h Ver.24.

i Ver.35.

96	Of the Sinne against
	Commandements: for therein doe I
k Ver.47.	delight? I willk delight my selfe in thy Com=
.,,	mandements which I have loved.
Ver.50.	This is my 1 comfort in my affliction,
	for thy word hath quickened me.
m Vc1.52.	Im remember thy ludgements of
	clde, O Lord, and have comforted my
n Ver 54.	Thy n Statutes have been my Songs
2	in the house of my pilgrimage.
	The proud have forged a lye against
	me, &c. their heart is as fat as greafe,
o Ver.69.70.	but I o delight in thy Law.
p Ver. 72.	The Law of thy mouth is P better to
	me then thousands of gold and silver.
	They that feare thee will bee glad
9 Ver 74.	when they see me, because I have 9 ho-
	ped in thy word: Let thy tender mercies come into
	me, that I may line : for thy Law is my
r Voy -r	r delight.
r Ver. 77.	Vnlesse thy Law had beene my i de-
	light, I should then have perished in my
	affliction.
t Vcr. 970	O how thought thy law: it is my me-
	ditations all the day.
* . J W	Thou through thy Commandements
	hast
•	

Of the Sinne Against

hast made me wiser then my enemies, for they are ever a with me.

I have more understanding then all my teachers, for thy Testimonies are my b meditations.

Innderstand more then the auncients, because I c keepethy precepts.

How d sweet are thy words unto my taste; yea sweeter then bony to my mouth.

- Through thy statutes I get e vnderstanding, therefore I have enery false way.

- It is time for thee Lord to worke, for they have made veyd thy Law.

Therfore I love 8 thy comandements above (14), year above fine Gold.

He that received the h feed in stony places, the same is he that heareth the Word, and anone with in receiveth it.

Then they that gladly i received his

Word were baptized, &c.

- And they continuing dayly with one accord in the Temple, and breaking of bread from house to house, did eat their meat with gladnesse, and singlenesse of heart, &c.

The Eunuch when he was baptized

a Ver.98.

b Ver. 99.

c Ver. 100.

d Ver. 103.

c Ver 104.

f Ver, 126.

g Ver. 1 27. to
132, 140, 143,
162, 163, 165,
167, 171, 174,
h Matth. 13, 20,

i Actes 2.41.

k Acts 8.38,39

1 Acts 16,32, 33,347,

m f.Pet.2.1,

n Num. 23.1 9. mat. 13.20. o fiebr. 6.5.7 1 cor. 13.7

7. 15 ° 7. 15

2 Cor. 2.15.

Pift gi't of the Spirit, 12, Ta, fling of the spower of the world to come p Matth. 7.22 & 12,24, to 30. acts 3.12, luke

went away k reiogcing.

The Iaylor after hee beleened the word, and was baptifed: he i reioyced beleening in God with all his house.

Wherfore laying aside all matice, and all guile, and hypocrifie, and enuy, and entispeaking, as new borne Babes in defire the sincere milke of the word, that they may grow thereby.

If so be that ye have tasted that the Lord is gracious, a taste whereof wicked men n have had and a may have.

And so much for the fourth gift or worke of the Spirit, viz, Tasting the good word of God.

Good in respect of man, effectually onely as it is to him the sauour of life: Good in respect of God, both casually, and effectually, as it is the sauour of life and death.

Fiftly, of the fift gift or worke of the Spirit, viz. Tafting the powers of the world to come.

Which is pabilitie to cast out Deuills, and to Preach in the spirit of power, as appeareth, where it is said:

The

The kingdome of God is not in word,

but in 9 power.

Behold, I send the promise of my Father upon you, but tarrieye at Ieru-Alem, till yee bee endued with a power from on high.

It is not for you to know the times or the seasons which the Father bath pat

in his owne spower.

But you shall receive power after that the Holy Ghoft is come upon you, and ye shall be witnesses unto mee both in Ierusalem and in all Indea, and in Sameria, and unto the etmost part of the earth &c.

My speach or my Preaching, was not with intifing wordes of mans wifedome, but in demonstration of the spirit, and of power, that your faith should not stand in the misdome of men, but in the tpower of God.

According to the upower that the Lord bath given me to edification, and

not to destruction.

The weapons of our warfare are not carnall, but x mightie through God, to the pulling downe of strong holds, casting downe imaginations, and energ high

q I Cor.4.20.

r Luk, 24,49.

f Acts 1,7,8;

t I. Cor. 2.4.5

u 2. Cor. 13.10.

2 Cor. 10.4.5

high thing that exalteth it selfe against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivitie enery thought to the obedience of Christ.

For his letters say they are waightie and powerfull, but his bodily presence is weake, and his speach contemptible.

y Ephc.s.10,11

Finally my Brethren, be y strong in the Lord, & in the power of his might, for wee wrastle not against steels and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darknesse of this world, against sprituall wickednesse in high places, & c.

A tasting of which power, is that fift gift, or worke of the Spi-

rit.

Enlightening difcouers and fhewes to man, the wayes of his fpiritual mifery, making him cry out, what shall I doe?

Taking of the heauenly gift discouers and shews man the way of spirituals safetie, making him crie out, How shall I doe?

Partaking of the Holy Ghost,

giucth power to doe.

Tasting of the good Word of God

God, giueth cofort in the doing.

Tasting of the powers of the world to come, ouercommeth the enemies, which arife against doing.

And so much for the five severall gifts, or workes of the spirit.

After which a enlightening, tasting of the heavenly gift, partaking of the holy Ghost, tasting of the good word of God, and powers of the world to come. After receiving of the knowledge of the b trueth, after escaping from them who live in errour, after escaping the d pollutions of the world, through the knowledge of the Lord, and Sauiour Iesus Christ, after espeaking against the Holy Ghost, after going out of the functeane spirit, after light is g come into the world (viz. vnto them) fo enlighnedaster that they h knew God.

If they fall i away, sinne k willingly, tread under foot the Sonne of God, count the blood of the Couenant, wherewith they are H 3 Sanctia Fieb, 5, 4, &c.

b Heb. 10,26. c 2 Pet.2.18.

d Ver. 20.

e Math. 12.32.

f Marh, 12,43 g 10hn 3,19.

2 thef. 2.10. h Rom 1.21. Heb. 6.6.

k Heb. 10:26, 27,29.

k 2 Pet, 2.18.

1 2 Pet. 2.20.

m Math. 12,32

o Iohn 3.19.

p Rom, 7,21.,

q Rom. 1,28.

r Hebr. 6.4,

f Mat.12,32. t Iohn 3,19.

u Rom.1.13.

x Heb. 10,26,

y Math, 12.45. 2 Pet,2:20.

sanctified, (as aforesaid:) an vnholy thing, have done despight vnto the spirit of grace, are kallured againe through the lusts of the flesh, through much wanten nesse, to those from whom they were once cleane escaped; are againe lintangled with the pollutions of the world, and ouercome; doe speake against the holy m Ghost, the vncleane spirit entring into them againe, doe o lone darkenes rather then light, doe pnot glorifie God as God, but become vaine in their immaginations, doe not qlike to retaine God in their knowledge, they reannot bee renewed againe vnto repentance, s cannot be forgiuen, aret condemned, u against whom the wrath of God is reuealed from heauen; there remaines x no more facrifice for their sinnes, but a certaine fearefull looking for of Judgement, and fiery indignation, which shall devoure the adverfaries, whose latter ende is y worfe then their beginbeginnings.

And so much at this time concerning that fearefull sin against the Holy Ghost, and miserable condition of them that commit the same.

From which I befeech God for Christ Iesus sake to deliner vs. To whom with the Father, and holy Spirit of men and Angels, be ascribed all possible praise.

Which Sinne against the Holy Ghost before enlightning, tasting of the heavenly gift, &c. as before cannot bee committed, among which gifts(by your owne relation, the truth whereof z lone binds me to beleeue) Enlightning the first gift onely have you receiued; and therefore at the time of that relation, you had not finned that sinne against the Holy Ghost, neither I hope to this time haue: wherefore if God hath giuen youa * resolution to doc his will, as I hope he hath, then haue you from thence a good ground of assurance to knowe Gods H 4

z 1. Cor. 13.7

* loh.7.17

b rthel.s. 17
iam.1.5,6,&c.
c Rom.1c.17.
d lofur.8.
e Mal.; 15
heb.2.2. & 10.
25,25.
f 11a.8. o.
1 tipr.5.3. &c.
g R m 154.
h 2 Tim. 3.15,
16,&c.

i Ifa.29.13. & 30.1.8.31.1. & 65.2.mat. 15.336.9. k Gal.1.8.9. I let.23.16,&c. ezek.13.6.7. m.2 Cor.11. 13.14.

Gods wil, to comfort you till you know it, for a promise is made vnto you, that you shall know his will; therefore be diligent in the meanes leading thereunto, viz. b Prayer, chearing, d meditation, econference and that according to holy Scripture: for they were written for our g learning, that wee through patience and comfort of them might haue hope: and they are able to make a manh wife vito faluation, thorough faith that is in Christ Iesus: for all Scriptures is giuen by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproofe, for correction, for instruction in righteousnesse, that the man of God may be perfect, thorowly furnished to all good workes: but beware of receiuing for Doctrines, the iCommaunds of men; though men as k'Angels from heauen; for many haue and doe fay, The Lord faith it, when the Lord | neuer spake it. And fuch are m falle Apostles,

deceitfull workers, transforming themselves into the Apostles of Christ, and no maruell; for Satan humselse is transformed into an Angell of light: therefore it is no great thing, if his Ministers be transformed, as the Ministers of righteousnesse, whose end shall be according to their works.

Read often 1erem. 23. first and second chapters to the Romans, 2. Tim. 3. 2. Pet. 2 and Iudes Epistle, in which are manifold descriptions of false Prophets, discouered by their life, doctrine, and disciples. And in any wise receive not any n doctrine into beleefe and practise, till with the noble o Bereans, by the Law, and p Testimony, the touchstone of Truth, you have tryed the same.

As the first distresse vpon the sight of sinne, is a feare of being guiltie in the sinne quagainst the Holy Ghost, as your selfe from feeling experience haue related, and my selfe and many others, from like experience haue found.

1 ohn 2,26. & 3,7,2 iohu 7,to 12; o Actes 17,11. p. 1/2,8,20.

q Matt. 12,31 3211 ioh. 5.16.

So the first ease in distresse, as my selfe and many others likewise haue found, is an understanding ignorance of the knowledge of that sinne, which begets a hope of not being guiltie in that sinne; and that hope begets a diligent and carefull inquiry, what to do to get a pardon for their finnes, which they hope are pardonable, with a fresolution to doe what direction soeuer God in his word commaunds; which Resolution, as it is euer accompanied with an increase of ease and comfort, in the person of resoluing: so it is likewise accompanied with manifold inward and outward u temptations, and perswasions, proceeding from the world, flesh, and Deuill, to stop such resolued ones from practise of instruction, and to x turne them backe to imbrace the y vanities of their former walkings.

For instance, the world which consistes of carnall profites and pleasures, presents the zglory of

those

r Acts 2.37. and 16.30.

f loba7.17.

t Act .: 41,&c.

u Heb.10.32.

x Heb.10.39. y 1 Pet,1.18.

z Math.4.8.

those profites and pleasures to their consideration to bee farre greater then formerly they obserued, promising vnto them a long and happy enioying of them, if they will but returne againe, and imbrace them.

It * presents likewise to their consideration, the ignominious basenesse, ponertie, reproch, contempt, and great fight of afflictions, to be sarre greater then they formerly imagined, which of necessitie must fall upon them, unlesse they return again unto her.

The a flesh presents likewise those beautifull Dalilaes, and seeming sweete solacing pleasures formerly enjoyed, perswading a farre greater, and more excellent contentment then formerly they performed, if they will but returne againe, and entertaine them with their wonted imbracements.

It likewise presents the continually warre of restlesse discon* 1 Cor.4.11. &c.heb.10.33.

a 2Pet.2.13,

b Gal.5. 17. rom.6.12:19.

tents,

c Mat.19.26,21

Macia, 4.5.

Here he comes as an angel in a glorious shew, as once he cam toSaul, when he perswaded him to lecke honor before the peupleat Sam, 15,30 and he alwayes comes against the Law, Gospel, and practile of the Saints, as formerly ap. peareth. d lob 10,18, 19,20,22, plal. 73.13,80.

tents to be far greater the formerly they imagined, which of necesfitie must be falth m, vnlesse they returne again, & submit vnto her-

The edenil imediatly by spirituall suggestio, or mediatly by false prophets, presents an impossibilitie of performace of that work of repentance, perswading that they may bee saued without performace of that work of repentance.

If that be not of force, he then perswades them, that such repentance performed by prosessors of the Gospel, will cause the name of God, and sincere prosessors of the Gospel, to be early spoken of.

It that prevailes not, hee perfwades them, that they must needs d die, and cannot live till that worke of repentance bee performed. And therefore not with standing all their labor to the contrary; yet they must returne and be his captives at the last, and therefore their torment shall bee the greater, for that they have forsaken him, and stood so long in rebellion bellion against him; with many other like perswasions: witnesse the spirits of many humbled ones, to whome such inward, and outward perswasions have been ministred, neither of which perswasions prevailing.

Then bothe the world, flesh, and deuill, conjoynes their vtmost forces, to make them outwardly ignominious, base, poore, contemptible, outwardly filthy, lasciuious, vnchaft, &c. outwardly desperate, even to the manifest note of all men. Therefore great need had they, (viz. fuch enlightened ones) of comfortable encouragements, learned admonishments, to hold them on in the practife of Repentance, till the day star, viz. the promised Spirit, leading into all truth, keeping from doing all euill, arife in their g hearts.

Of encouragements, of admonishments, are many, among which at this present, these following considerations, or meditations laid downe in holy Scrip-

e 1 Cor,4,9, to 1 4. hebr.10,22, 23,24. 2 cor, 10,2,10.

f Iohn 14,16, 17,26, & 15,26 & 16,7,13, g 2, Cor,13,5, gal, 2,20, 2 pet, 1,19, 1 ioh,3,9, & 5,10,11,12, ture, viz. the bleffed condition of Saints; the curfed condition of reprobates discouered in these particulars.

First the beauty of that place from which they are perswaded to returne, and that in three degrees.

I Degree.

Manifested in these Scriptures: Hebr. 9. 1. 106. Adatth. 5. 19. and 18. 17. Ads 1. 13.

2. Degree.

Manifested in these Scriptures: 10hn 4. 23. 1 Cor. 3.9.16.17. & 5.4. & 6. 19. 1. Thess. 5.4. 5. Heb. 12. 22.

3. Degree.

Manifested in these Scriptures:

Renel. 4.1.2.

'Secondly the Deformity of that place to which they are perfunded to returne, and that likewife in three degrees.

Manifested in these Scriptures: Acts 26.18.

2 Degree

2. Degree.

Manifested in these Scriptures: Rom. 1.21 2 Cor. 4.3.4. 2 Thess. 2.11. 2 Pet. 2.17. Iude 6.7,13.

2 Degree.

Manifested in these Scriptures:

Matt. 25.30.

Thirdly, the worthynesse of the Company of that place, from which they are perswaded to returne, and them likewise in three degrees.

I Degree.

Manifested in these Scriptures, Exod. 11.7. 1 Cor. 10.1. 10 6. in respect of bodily familiarity.

2 Degree.

Manifested in these Scriptures: Hebr. 12:22. in respect of spiritual all familiarity.

3 Degree.

Manifested in these Scriptures: Reuel.4.4. and 7. 9. in respect of bodily and spirituals familiarity.

Fourthly, the basenesse of the Company of that p'ace, to whom they are perswaded to returne, & themlikewise inthree degrees.

1 De-

I Degree:

Manifested in these Scriptures: Alts 26.18. Rom. 3.10, 11. Ephes. 2.1,2,3,11,12. and 4.17.18

2 Degree.

Manifested in these Scriptures, 16a.66 24. Matth. 12:45. and 22 4. 10 36. 2 Tim. 3.1, &c. and 4. 10. Tit. 3.10,11. Heb. 6.6,7,8. and 10.26. to 29.39. 2. Pet.2.1, &c. Inde, 4.8.

2 Degree.

Manifested in these Scriptures: Mat 25.41. Ren. 19. 20. and 20.

10,15. and 22.15.

5. The profitablenes and perpetuitie of the things in that place, from which they are perswaded to returne, which in value or worth are of three degrees.

I Degree.

Manifested in these Scriptures: Exod. 11.7. Rom. 3. 2. and 9.4,5. Hebr. 9. 13. Mat. 5.19. and 10. 1. &c.

2 Degrée.

Manisested in these Scriptures: Luke 1.7. and 11.13. and 21 15.

lobn

Iohn 7 38. 39. and 14. 12.13.14. 16.17. 26. and 15.26. and 16, 7, 13, 22. and 17. 14, 15, Rom. 5.1, to 6. and 6. 2. to 9. 14, 17, 18, 21, 22. and 8 1,2,4,15,16. 1. Cor. 1. 30. and 6 11. Gal. 5.22. Reue. 1. 9. Acts 7.10.

3. Degree.

Manifested in these Scriptures, Matth. 19.28. Revel. 7.9. to 17. 1. Cor 2.9.

The perpetuitie of enioyment of the faid place, company, and things: Ifa. 35.10. and 5.21.lere.

32.49.

6. The vnprofitablenesse and perpetuitie of enioyment of the things in that place, to which they are perswaded to returne, which in basenesse are of three degrees.

1. Degree.

Manifested in these Scriptures: Ephes. 2. 1, 2, 3. and 4. 17, 18. 1. Tim.1.13. Tet.3.3.

2. Degree.

Manifested in these Scriptures: Rom. 1.24. to 32. 2. Tim. 3.1. &c. 1 2. Pet. 2.Pet.2.1.&c. Inde 4. &c. 3. Degrees.

Manifested in these Scriptures: Isa. 30 33. and 66. 24. Math. 25.

41,46. Mar. 9.42,60.

The perpetuitie of enjoyment of the said place, company, and things therein: Math.25.41,46.

Mar 9.43,44,60.

And those considerations are sufficient encouragements & admonishmets with Gods assisting Spirit, not onely to answere the world, slesh, and Deuils alluremets to Apostacie, but also to preserve & keep man fro Apostacie.

Besides those perswasions of the world, sless, and Denill, many other things to enlightned ones, are very troublesome and grieuous, among which at this time

these foure following:

1. Their ignorance in the Gofpell, how to repent of their paffed transgressions of Gods lawes made knowne vnto them.

2. Their almost daily transgreffions of Gods lawes not formerly

made

made knowen vnto them.

3. Their ignorance of the Law fo to walk, as to be able to give a reason of every of their actions and conversations.

4. Their many observed vnwilling failings in obedience to the lawes made knowne vnto them, which puts them almost every day in despairing doubts of their

eternall happinesse.

The three first particular things troubling an enlightned conscience, the Holy Ghost giues this answere, saying, If any man will doe the will of God, he shal know doctrines whether they bee of God, or of the present speaker.

Doest thou indeed and in truth resolue to doe the will of God? then hast thou a promise to know the will of God made by one that is not only willing, but also able, and faithfull in performing his promise: therefore thou that so resoluest to doe Gods will, may st take comfort by that promise made in holy Scripture: for they

1 Pet.3.15.

John 7,17.

2

were

c Rom. 15.4. d = Tim.3.15.

e Iohn 5.39. f Mat. 7,21. & 12.50. g Pro.3,27. 2 cor 8,12. h Mark, 11,24 iames 1.5,6. i Luke 11.50 to 14. k Luke 181, 2,8c. 1 Acts 2,37. &c. & g. 6, &c. & 16,30.

were therefore written for thy learning, that thou through patience and comfort of them mightest haue chope; for they are able to make thee d wife vnto saluation, through faith that is in Christ Iesus. Hath he promised thee that thou that resoluest to do his will. shalt know his will; and dost thou search the Scriptures as hee bids ethee, and hast thou done his will to thy g vtmost abilitie? and hast thou h Faith to beleeue his promise? and doest thou with ihim that at midnight came to his friend to borrow three loaues of bread; and with that k widow that sought Iustice at the hands of the vnrighteous Iudge, with the three I thousand Converts, Paul, and the Taylor, seeke, and continue seeking with patience, and Prayer; then my soule for thine, thou shalt in a seasonable time obtaine that thou seekest for.

And so much in answere to the three first grounds, from whence thy, at least seeming despairing

doubts

doubts doe arise.

To the fourth and last ground from whence thy doubts doe arise, viz. Thy almost daily obserued vnwilling failings; the Holy Ghost answereth, saying, m That light is come into the world, and men loue darkenesse rather then light, because their deedes are euill.

The wrath of God is reuealed from heauen, against all vngodlinesse, and vnrighteousnesse of men, who hold the truth in a vn-

righteoulnesse.

He that sinneth wilfully after hee hath received the knowledge of the trueth through penlightning, tasting of the heavenly gift &c. there remaineth no more sacrifice for his sinne, but a certain fearfull looking for of judgment, and siery indignation, &c.

Doest thou not love darkenesse rather then light? doest thou not hold the trueth in indgement, and deny it in doctrine, and practise? doest not sinne wilfully against m Iohn 3.19.

n Rom.1.19.

o Hebr. 10,26,

p Heb. 6.4,&c.

[3

thy

q Rom.s.r.

r Rom, 14.22.

f Gal. 5. 17.

t 2 Cor.4.16. u 2 Cor.5.1, 4,64 x Rom.7.18. y Rom.7.22,25

thy received knowledge of the trueth, as formerly.

Then there is no q condemnation against thee, the wrath of God is not reuealed from heaven against thee, there remaines a sa crifice for thy sin: therefore be of good comfort; for rhappie is he that condemneth not himselfe in that thing that he alloweth.

And so much for clearing of thy do bts, arising from the foresaid fourefolde grounds, from whence thy doubts did arise.

And for thy further instruction in vnderstading Scripture, which concerneth thy present condition, to preserve thee from staggering, consider with me these five following observations:

I. Observation

That of Scriptures speaking in the conslict sbetween the slesh & Spirit, inward, outward man, earthly u house, tabernacle, in which cuill, and nothing but euill x dwelleth, spiritually house, Tabernacle, liuing body, body of

life; in which goodnesse, viz. the Spirit of Christ, and nothing but goodnesse z dwelleth: which inward man, spirituall Tabernacle, onely is * regenerate in this life, viz before its separation from the outward man, earthly tabernacle; and that inward man, spirituall tabernacle, Regenerate a cannot sinne, viz. transgresse a Law made knowne vnto him bagainst the perswasion of the Spirit, and his present knowledge of the trueth; betweene which inward and outward man, earthly and spirituall tabernacle, is a continuall lusting warring, and rebelling.

The Spirit, or spirituall tabernacle, inward man, mind, indisferently so called, d seruing the law of God: the slesh, mortall body, earthly house, tabernacle, body of death, indisferently so called, ser-

uing e the law of sinne.

The flesh susteth against the spirit, the spirit against the slesh.

The lusting of the flesh is stir-

e £

red

z Cor 13.5.
ga'-2.20.
1 lohn 3.9.
* Pfal.51.10.
ezek.18.31. &:
36.26. tom.7.
22525.& 3.6.&:
12.2. 2 cor.4.
16.ephe.4.23.
a 1 lohn 3.0.
b 2 Cor.10.4.5
iohn 3.19.
tom.7.1 \$,28.
heb.10.26.&c.
2 pet.2.20.&c.

c Gal.5.17. 2 pct.2.19.

d Rom.7.21, 23,25.

e Rom.7.25. f Gal.5.17. g Rom.7.18,

h Iohn 14-17. 2 cor. 13.5. rom. 8.9, 10, 11.

Instance 1.

red vp by geuill, dwelling in the flesh.

The lusting of the spirit is stirred vp by the spirit of Christ,

h dwelling in the pirit.

When the inward man would doe good, euill dwelling in the outward man, is present with him, stirring up the outward man to lust against him the inward man; so that the inward man can not doe what he would. But the euill the inward man would not doe, viz haue his outward man so lust against his inward man, hee the outward man doth.

Instances to make my vnderstanding, if God will, plaine vnto

you.

I enter into my chamber to fast and pray; while I the inward man am performing the duetie, euill dwelling in my outward man is present with mee, stirring vp my outward man, to lust against my inward man, either by presenting some carnall businesse in its seife, lawfull to cut off my prayer and fasting before my intended time, or by presenting some euill thoughts, as Murthers, Adulteries, Fornications, Thefts, Fasse witnesse bearing, Blasphemy and the like, labouring by carnall perswassons, not onely to draw my inward man to affect them, but also to lust after them; by reason whereof, I the inward man cannot doe the good I would.

But the euill my inward man would not doe, viz. haue my outward man so lust against my inward man, I my outward man

doth.

I passing through a street, and beholding a poore man in great necessitie, I my inward man delighting in the Law of God, am by the Spirit of Christ, k dwelling in my inward man, stirred vp to releeue the poore mans necessitie.

I my outward man by euill Idwelling therein, hating the law of God, am stirred up to lust against the performance of that Law

Math. 15, 19.

Instance z.

i Rom.7.22.

k Rom. 8.9,10. 2 cor. 13.5.

1 Rom. 7.18.

m Rom.2.20.

o Math.4.

Law of God, in producing carnall perswasions to passe by without releeuing the poore man, or at least to expect praise of passengers, beholding the said gift, and thereby making the g ft carnall, lose the m praise of God.

The conflict betweene the inward and outward man, both for manner and continuince by way of comparison, stands as did that betweene Christ the stronger man, and Sathan the strong man, during his being in the o wildernesse, in the three great temptations, in which Sathan labouring by strong perswasions to bring him into captiuity to the law of finne, one while labouring him to despaire, in his long fast of his Fathers preservation, in commaunding him to make stones bread, otherwhile by labouring him to presumption, viz. to depend vpon his fathers preservation in an vnlawfull act, by commanding him to cast himselfe downe from the pinacle of the Temple. Otherwhile.

while by labouring him to loue the glory of the world, cotrary to his Fathers commaundement, by offering him all the kingdomes of the world, if hee would fall downe and worship him; in which Sathan being ouercome, hee left him for a season. And so much for

the manner, and time.

As Sathan when Christ would doe good, was present with him, labouring to bring him into captiuity to the law of finne, but brought him not: so by resemblance, euill dwelling in Pauls outward man, was bringing his inward man into captiuity to the law of finne, which was in his members, viz. in his outward man; but brought him p not. And fo stands the condition of the Elect after Regeneration of their inward man, till their inward man by death bee dissolued; in which outward man, though fin dwels, yet it doeth not qraigne, neither doeth the inward man obey it in the lusts thereof: for he of whom

p For hee was then Christes freeman, viz. made free from the law of fin and death. Rom. 8. 2. lohn 8. 36. q Rom. 6. 2. 12, 14, 18, 22.

a man

r 2 Pct. 2.19. f Rom. 6.16. a man is ouercome of the same, he is brought in I subjection, and his servant he is to whom he sobeyeth, whether of sinne vnto death, or of obedience vnto righteousnesse.

Instance 3.

I, the inward man would walk in all the Commaundements of God: but for that I the inward man know not all the Commaundements of God, I the inward man doe walke contrary to some of the Commandements of God, and that euil I the inward man would not doe.

Inftance 4.

I the inward man would not erre in doctrine; but by reason of ignorance in many things, doe erre in doctrine, that another e-uill which I the inward man would not doe.

Instance 5]

I the inward man would not erre either in gestures, viz. vn-feemely cariage of the body,&c. or in wordes, viz. vnadused speaking, &c. or in actions, viz. vnadused doings,&c. but by reason of ignorance, and improuidence

dence I doe erre in settures, words, and actions, and therein I the inward man would not erre.

I the inward man would doe many more workes of Charitie then I amable; so well works of Charity in comforting spirits af-flicted, by sight and sense of bodies aflicted, by sight and sense of sickenesse, losses, or other bodily afflictions, which will though it be present with me, yet how to performe I know not.

I, the inward man would performe all promises, but by reason of forgetfulnesse, or inabilitie, I doe not; and those omissions are in themselues euils which I

would not.

The second Observation.

That of the Scriptnes speaking of things that are u not, as though they were; and so by * comparing spirituall things with spirituall, * one place with an other: Dauid, Iob, Lor, Noah, Peter, were righteous, and inst men, before their recorded committed sinnes,

Iustance 6.

t Romly 18.

Inftance, 7.

uRom.a.17.
ier.50.2. ifa.9.
6. ioh.16.31. &
17.1.mat.26.28
mat.14.24.luk.
22.19. I pet.t.
20.1ev.21.6.
* 1 Cor.2.13.
x as Mat.13.12.
with Luk.8.18

y Icr. 1.5. z Luke 1.15. aRo.0.11.0014

6 Act, 9.15. c Eph. 2.1,2,3. tit.3.3. gen.6. 5. ephel. 5.14. 1 Pet.4.3.

d Heb 5.4. & 10 26. 2 pet,2.13. 20. Luk.24.45 mat.12.43. e Rom. 5, 1,&c.

ioh. 8.35. rom. 8.1,2,11,15, 16,17, gal,3,27 23.29 & 5.24. 2 cer. 13.5. 2 tim_2,25

f Mat 12.3 1. 32,44.45.ioh.8. 34.35. Heb, 5.4. to 7. & 10. 26. 27. 2 Pet. 2.18.

t022. g 1 Cor. 6.17. h 2 Cor. 7.1. Jam.3.2. 2 iob. 2.1.2. uch.1.5. to 8, dans, 9.5. ier. 50 5.

as y Ieremie, z John Raptist, were sanctified in their Mothers wombe, and Iacob a a beloued man before borne, and had done either good or euill; Paul a b chosen vessell while yet a persecutor.

The third Observation.

That of Scriptures distinction of particular eltares and condions: viz. c Darkened, d Enlightened, e Iustified, of a particular person passing through the two first, and remaining in the third Eternally.

The first and second estates are common both to Elect and Reprobate, and men in them subiect

to f change.

The third Estate is peculiar to the Elect onely, and men therein vnchangeable, as is Christ with whom they are become g one.

The fourth Observation.

That of the Saints speaking in the person of the B Church, of which some are in the first estate, some in the second, some in the third

third: as Matth. 13.13. 109. 1 Cor. 3. 12. to 16. 2 Tim. 2.20. Matib. 13.47, 48. and 5. 19. and 12.43 to 46. Luke 7.23. Iohn 8 35. Alt: 8.13. to 25. and 20.30 1 Tim. 1. 19,20. and 2 Tim. 2.18. and 4.10, 14. and 3.5. Hebr 6.4. 107 and 10. 26. to 34. 2 Pet.2.1 10 22. Inde first verse to the last. 1 Iohn 2. 19. Reu. 2. 13. 14. 1 for. 5.1.10 12. clearely observable throughout the whole Epstles.

Answerable whereunto are the Confessions, Prayers, & Thanksgiuings of our Preachers, before andafter Sermons: viz. confessions and prayers of forgiuenesse of all sinnes in generall, of many in particular: as if they the Preachers-together with all their hearers did then remaine vnrepentant in all sinnes in generall, and them named in particu! lar: as for example, Let vs i clense our selves from all filthynesse of slesh and spirit, as if all were filthy in flesh and spirit, yet some of k them were ki Cor 6.11.

i 3 Cor.7.1.

washed

1 Rom.8.2. m 1 Cor.4.4.

n 1 Ioh.3 21.

o 1 tohn 2,2. p Verl. 13,19.

q Acts 20.30.

washed, sanctified, and instified in the name of the Lord Iesus, and by the Spirit of God, and their I Preacher feed from the Law of sinne and death, knowing m nothing by himselfe, according to Iohns generall Rule of tryall, saying, If our hearts condemne vs n not then have wee considence towards God.

Thankesgiuings for our Election, vocation, iustification, sanctification, and assured hope of gloristication, as if all the Congregation were in that blessed condition: as for example, If any man sinne, we have an Adnocate with the Father, Iesus Christ the righteous, and he is the propitiation for our sinnes, and not for ours onely, but for the sinnes of the whole world; yet some of them were P Antichrist, and went out from the Church.

According to Pauls prophesie faying, 4 To the Church of your owne selues, shall men arise speaking peruerse things to drawe 2-

way

way Disciples after them.

The sift observation.

That of the different times, and different i measures of the Gospels reuelation to the Apofiles and other Disciples, viz. to some before other some, to some in greater measure than to othersome; which caused the t great diusions among them, the Teachers and their Disciples.

A right understanding whereof, as of all things else needfull for saluation, that you may haue, I beseech God for Christ Iesus sake to grant, to whom with the

Father, and the holy Ghost be ascribed of vs all possible praise. r Acts 10,280, with 11,40 f Acts 15,1.816 and 18,25. & 21 20, rom, 14, 1, to 7, 1 Cor. 8.7.

t 1 Cor. 1.11. to 16, and 3. 1. to 23. Allerton production of



Certaine Reasonings, whether the established Law in our Kingdome, commanding kneeling at receiving the Sacrament of the Lords Supper be to be obeyed by Christian Subjects.

Now published for the benest of such as remaine doubtfull heerein.

Answere.

Hat it is to be obeyed:
which answere maintained (thus.)

Euery established law in a Kingdome, that crosses not a Law of God, is by command of God to be abbeied by euery Christian Subiect.

But to kneele at the receiving of the Sacrament, is an establi-

a Eccl. 8.2. rom. 13.1,&c. tit. 3.1,2. 1 a pet. 2.13. Mark 10.46.

fhed Law in our Kingdom, which croffeth not a Law of God.

Therefore it is to be obeyed.

2. Whatsoeuer is not against Christ, is for Christ.

But kneeling at the Sacrament is not against Christ.

Therefore kneeling at the Sacrament is for Christ.

Which Answere denied, and that deniall reasoned thus.

Law of God, is not to be obeyed by Christian subjects.

But that established Law in our Kingdome, commaunding kneeling at the receiving of the Sacrament, doeth crosse a Law of God.

Therefore it ought not to bee obeyed by Christian subjects.

2. In vaine doe they worship mee, who teach for doctrines the commands of men.

But

Ephe.5.1. mat.26,26.

Mathilso.

But to teach to kneele at the Sacrament, is a command of man.

Therefore those that teach such a worship, doe worship God in vaine.

3. Whosoeuer shall adde to the words of Gods Booke, shall have all the plagues written in Gods Booke added ynto them.

But such as command kneeling at the Sacrament, doe so adde.

Ergo, Such shall have all the plagues in Gods Books added vn-to them.

4. Woe to the rebellious children, that take counsell, but not of God.

But fuch as kneele at the Sacrament, do take counfell, but not of God.

Ergo, A Woe belongs vnto

5. Such whose feare to God is taught by the precepts of men, though they draw neere to God with their mouthes, yet their hearts are far from him.

But they that feare to fit at the K 2 Sa-

Reuc. 22.18.

Ifay 30.1.

Ilay 29.3.

Sacrament, their feare is taught

by the precepts of men.

Ergo, They draw necre to God with their mouthes, but their heart is farre from him.

A Reply to the first Argument, thus.

Y Our Maior Proposition, I confesse.

Your Minor I deny, and reason it thus:

If wee should concease, that that commaund did extend to all examples of Christ in generall, or to that supposed commaund of sitting at receining of the Sacrament in particular, then your answere had been found.

But that commaund extends not to all hexamples of Christ in generall, neither to that supposed commaund of sitting at receiving of the Sacrament in par-

ticular.

Therfore that reply is vnfound.

And

h Mah.4.2. luke 22 11,12, 17,t0 21, & 2, 21,22,10hn 15.455.

And that particular Example, to which that commaunded imitation is restrayned, is onely to brotherly loue, expressed in the second Tables dutie, which is commaunded, as appeares in the Scriptures, directed vnto by the Marginall Cotations at the Letter i, which may safely bee followed, and not to Christes Examples in generall, which. your Reasonings drive vnto. As you reason from that commaunded Example of Christ: so may you reason from the likek commaunded Example of the Apofile, which if wee should conceaue did extend to all his Examples in generall, would draw most vnsound Conclusions, as by the Scriptures directed vnto in the Margent at the letter 1, plainly appeares.

Some Examples in Scriptures, though accompanied with a commaund to m some, are not to bee

imitated by others.

And some Examples in Scrip-K 4 ture, i Ephe.4.32. with ch.5.2.22 24,25,&c.&ch. 6.1.2.4.5,to 10. luke 6.35.

k Phil.3.17.

1 Actes 16.3. & 21.26. & 23.3.

m Gen.22.2. to.11.exo.11.2. numb.22.20. to.36. n Gene.12.13. exod.18.19. iolu.2.5.4.5. ture, though commaunded to n some, yet not to be practised by others.

Some things in order of Ceremony, as the time, place, perfons: what kinde of Wine, either White, Claret, &c. What kinde of Bread, viz. Leauened, or vnlcauened, &c.

At what age a person being a

child, is to be baptized.

Place of washing: whether in River, or an artificiall Font.

Manner of washing; whether the whole body, or but a part; whether by sprinkling, or rubbing with the hand: and whether after washing, to wipe the body with a cloath, as Mary did Christs feet, and Christ the Disciples feete, with many other like instances, which were left by Christ to the disposing of the Church, as in the Scriptures directed vnto by the Marginall Cotation at the letter pappeareth.

If to vse a Ceremony, or cir-

p Acts 6 1,2,3,3 &c.r cor.6.4.&c 1 1,34. &c 14.40. tit.1.5. I cor. 7.6,&c. cumstance in the Service of God, in any particular not commaunded, not practifed by Christ, or his Disciples, bee an adding to the Word, then your selfe and greatest opposers with you, are adders, even in the practise of the fore-cited circumstances.

Therfore for shame, if you have any, desist from such reasonings, and labour to restraine such as you have made drunke with your speakings ewill, of what you vnderstood not, saying, The Lord saith it, when the Lord never spake it, lest you discouer your selues to be Apostate ones, forsaking, and forsaken of God, twise dead, and plucked up by the rootes.

2 Pet. 2. Iude. Ezek. 13, 6,7.

A Reply to the second Argument.

YOur Maior Proposition I confesse.

Your Minor I denie, and rea-

The

Math. 1 5.4,5,6.

The Doctrines there meant, are fuch as make voyd the commands of God.

But that command for kneeling at the Sacrament, you have not prooued to make void a commaund of God.

Therefore that commaund doth not make voyd, nor crosse a commaund of God.

A Reply to the third Argument.

Your Maior Proposition I confesse.

Your Minor I denie, and reafon it thus:

By adding to the word in that place, is meant an affirming that, that addition the Lord the feakes, which the Lord neuer spake; and that addition is a willingly made against the adders certain knowledge of the trueth, as appeareth, By that all the plagues in that Booke shall be added vnto them.

t Ezek. 13.6,7° & 22.28, u Rom. 1.18, 28.8 14.22, iohn 3.18,19, 2 thef. 2.10, tit. 3.11, heb. 10.26 27, iam. 4.17, 2 pet. 2.18,10, 20, x Reu, 22.18.

But

But that commaund for kneeling at the Sacrament, is no fuch addition, neither by that Argument colourably prooued fo to bee.

Therefore that commaund for kneeling at the Sacrament, is no fuch adding to the word of God.

For the Church and Gouernment of England doe teach that Command in case of Conscience, separated from the Command of the Gouernment, an indifferent thing, as y these and other like things, neither commanded, nor forbidden: this a part of Christian z libertie; but let vs not yse it as an occasion to the a flesh, viz. to the b transgression of any morall Law.

A Reply to the fourth Argu. ment.

Your Maior Proposition I
Your Minor Proposition in its

y Rom, I+5,6, I cor.6.12, & 8.8.8.9.19,2c, 21.8.10.21,23, 32,33. Z 1 Cor.8.9.8. 10.29.8.21.5.1. a Gal.5.13. b Gal.5.15,19, 2c,21.1 tim.1. 8,9,10,11.iam. I.22, 23,25,26, & c.8.2.4,8.to 15,8c. & 3.14, 15,16. & 4.4, 11.12.

end.

b Ifa,29,13, & 30,1,20d 3Y,1, Mat,15,3,to 10 c Ecclet 3,2, rom,13,1,&c, 1 pet,2,13, tit,3,Y,

ende, wherefore you haue brought it, I deny, and reason it thus.

Some fuch as kneele at the receiuing of the Sacrament may therein, I confesse, not onely in seeming, but indeede, both to themselues & others take b counsell of man not of God.

But not call.

Therefore not all that kneele at the receiving of the Sacrament doe therein take counfell of man, not of God.

A Reply to the lift Argu-

Your Maior Proposition I confesse.

Your Minor Proposition in its endwherefore you have brought it, I deny, and reason it thus.

Some such as feare to sit at recessing of the Sacrament, their d seare therein, I confesse, may not onely in seeming but in deed both

d 1fa,29,13, & 35,1, & 21, I, met, 15,5, to 10 both to themselues and others, be taught by the precepts of men onely.

But note all,

Therefore not all that feare to fit doe so feare.

The confideration whereof, and these following examples of Christ and the Apostles do plainly shew, that much obeience by Christians is required to be performed even to Heathen and Superstitious Governours, then out of controversie no lesse is by vs to be performed to Christian Governours.

Therefore doe no longer walke after your owne g Thoughts, h Councels, or i Traditions of men, lest yee instly incurre the institudgements of the inst God denounced against such walkers.

Pray, Reade, Confider, and the Lord for his Christs sake give you vndersting, least you as others kneeling, or sitting doubtingly (your doubts arising from Scriptures) doe wound your owne

e Eccles.2. rom.13.1. &c. tit.3.1.1 pet. 2.13.

f Mat. 17.24. 26. 27. Acts 28.8.

g Ifa,55. h 1fa,30. 1,&c. i Mat 15.3. 1.&c.

k Rom. 14. 23.

1 Rom. 14.15, 16,20,21,22, 1 cor. 8.7,8,9, to 13.

m 1. Cor. 3.12.

own soules; or otherwise, though not doubtingly, doe by your examples wound the 1 Consciences of your weake breathren, in drawing them doubtingly to immitate your examples, and your selues therby m sin against Christ, of which that you may beware, I beseech God for Christ Iesus sake to grant, to whom with the Father, and the Holy Spirit

Father, and the Holy Spirit bee ascribed of men and Angels all possible praise.

FINIS.

c Wisedomes bountie to heavenly pilgrims z,

by

IMP



PROV. 2. 10.to 20.

W Hen Wisedome entreth into thy heart, and knowledge is

pleasant unto thy soule,

Discretion shall preserve thee, vn-derstanding shall keepe thee: To deliner thee from the way of the euils man, &c. and from the strange noman, which for sketh the guide of her youth, and forgetteth the couenant of her God, &c. To whom who socuer goth, returne not againe, neyther take hold of the pathes of life.

Which woman spiritually is a false prophet, as compared with Revel. 14.9. 10. 11. plainly appeareth, and so that Scripture must be taken. For from strange women naturally men have returned again.

I Cor. 6.9, 10, 11.

Godline se is a a mystery, yea a

b great mystery.

Therefore c pray, d reade, and confider; and the Lord for Christ Iesus sake f open your vinderstanding in the knowledge of the Scriptures.

Eph.1.9.& 3.
3.4.9.
b Eph.5.32.
1 Tim.3.16.
c 1 Thef.5.17.
d 1 Tim.4.15.

a 1 Cor.2.7.

e Isay 1.3. Ezec.12.3.

2 Tim.2.7. !Luke 24.45.

For

1 2

For Memories defects, of which but few that complaine not.

Doe, before you examine the Contents by the quoted Scriptures, labour summarily to understand and relate the contents, otherwise by reason of the often interruptions in examining, ouercharging your memoric, you be deprived of great part of the benefit thereof, as I my selfe have been in reading tracts of like nature.

Errata.

In the Preface, page 7. line 22. for became reade become. In the Booke, p. 64. li. 25. for minifery, r. myslery. p. 70. li. 5. take out it. ibid. li. 16. for is mystery, r. is a mystery. p. 85. li. 20. for consisting, r. confession. p. 102. li. 22. for cating, tr. eating t,. In the Margin p. 9. for letter or. letter 2 p. 10. for As fol. 1. re. As fol. 3. p. 38 for * Fol. 27. r. * Fol. 30. p. 78. for As fol. 73. r. As fol. 77. p. 79. for letter t. letter t.

TO HIS BELOVED

Brethren and Sisters separated, and separating in person or affection, or both, from Englands government in Church e-.ftablished: vpon supposall of being Antichristian, earnestly desiring them, at least for a moment, to separate their judgements from the direction of their owne a imaginations, b councels, and c traditions of their leaders, and joyne-them with the councels and directions of the d Lord, the holy One of Israel, and by them trie their owne thoughts, councels, and traditions of their leaders, according to the Rules prescribed in the following Epistle, lest with those e women Paul speakes of, they continue cuer learning, and neuer able to come to the knowledge of the truth.

a Ifay 65.2. b Ifay 29.13. & 30.1. c Mat.15.3. to 9. d Ifay 31.1.

c 2 Tim 3.6.



Floued Brethren and Sifters, being by Gods mercy, with thoseflewes come to a fight of

mine owne blindnesse and ignorant misseadings, doe freely acknowledge to your eares, in presence of him that g strucke g Acts 5: dead Annanias and Saphira, for their hypocrifie, (whose hand is not shortned, orh power weakned) that I have been, and out of a godly ielousie, suspect many of you so to bec, vntimely curious in searching out defects in publike Churches, before those in that priuate Church, in mine owne house; with the boasting Pharise, plucking moates out of my Brothers eyes, not feeing beames in mine owne; with

f Isay 30.5.

h Num.11. 23. Ifay 50. 2. & 59.1.

the

12 Thefiz.12.

k 2Tim,3.1. &c.

1 Rom, 2.20.

the formall Iew, and diseased Physitian, labouring to teach others, not my selfe; vttering that I vnderstood not, things too wonderfull for me, which I knew not; contenting my felfewith a superficiall forme of godlinesse, yet taking i pleasure in vnrighteousnesse, forgetting, or not confidering that some men had, others shall have ak forme of godlinesse, yet louers of their owne selues, couetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to Parents, vnthankfull, vnholy, without naturall affection, truce-breakers, false accusers, incontinent, fierce, despisers of those that are good, traytois, heady, high minded, louers of pleasures more then louers of God, having a1 form of knowledge, resting in the Law, Law, making their boast of God and of the knowledge of his will, and of approuing the things that are more excellent, being confident they are guides of the blinde, lights to them that are in darknesse, instructers of the foolish, teachers of others, and yet not teach themselues; preaching that other men should not steale, vet steale themselves; despifers of m gouernment, prefumptuous ones, selfe-willed ones, not fearing to speake euill of dignities, speaking neuill of those things they vnderstand not, mockers, sensuall ones, having not the spirit, professing they know God, but in workes o deny him, being oTit 1.16. abhominable, and disobedient, and to euery good worke reprobate, P speaking with the tongues

m 2 Pet. 2.10. Jud.8.

n 2 Pet. 2.12. Jud.10. 18,19

DI Cor.13.1.80

q 2 Cor.11.

r Isay 30.1. & 31.1. f Isay 65.2.

t Mat. 15.3.6.9.

uRom.2.24.

x 2 Pct.2.2.

y Isay 65.5. Luke 18.9.&c. Iud.19. tongues of men and Angels, hauing the gift of prophesie, understanding of mysteries, faith to remoue mountaines, bestowing all their goods to the poore, and giving their bodies to bee burned, and yet not loue; transforming 9 themfelues into the Apostles of Christasthe ministers of righteousnesse, yet false Apostles, deceiptfull workers, taking r counsell but not of God, walking in a way that is not good, after their owne thoughts, making the Commandements of God of none effect through their tradition, through whom the name of God is u blasphemed, and *way of truth euill spoken of, y separating themselues, as being holier then others; being a smoake in the nostrels of of God, and a fire that burneth al the day, forgetting likewise, or at least not considering, that the heart of man is z decciptfull aboue measure, who can know it; and that the anaturall man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishnesse to him, neither can he know them because they are spiritually discerned; but he that is spirituall judgeth all things, yet hee himself is judged of no man. If it be so that a forme of godlinesse may be where godlinesse it selfe is wanting; and that by naturall vnderstanding, the things of the Spirit of God cannot be knowne, as who but the enemies of truth can deny: great need then had we, in the feare of God, wholly ayming at his glory, each others good, (for

Z Ier.17.9. Gen.6.5. &8.21. Deut. 11.16,17. a 1 Con.2.14.15 b 1 Iohn 5.14.

C Luke 11-13. Iam.1.5.6. 1 King.3:5. 10 14:

d Mat. 26, 22.

e Tit.3.3.to 8. Eph.2.3. (for to, fuch onely b things promised doe belong) be earnest with the Lord in c Prayer for obtaining the Spirit of discerning, and thereupon retire our selues into our selues, questioning euery one with himselfe, as did the Disciples in d searching out the Traytor, whether I be fuch a naturalist, fuch a formalist, considering the best of e men haue sometimes beene foolish, disobedient, following divers lusts and pleasures, living in malice, enuy, hatefull, and hating one another, and were by nature the children of wrath fo well as others, and fo continued, till after the kindnesse and loue of God to them appeared, not by workes of righteousnesse that they had done, but according to his mercy hee faued them them, by the washing of Regeneration and renewing of the holy Ghost, which he shed on them abundantly through Ielus Christ their Squiour. For example, David passing sentence of death against fothers, for committing the fame finnes himselfe lived in: and Paul in zeale for Gods glory, g persecuting and murthering Christ Iesus in his members; If fuch, vpon fearch, we find our selves to bee, happy and thrice happy wee, if with that holy man h 106, wee acknowledge we have vttered that we vnderstood not, things too wonderfull for vs that we knew not, and with that kingly i Prophet Danid, wee became filent, ceasing from teaching, & condemning others, till wee bee taught and freed

f 2 Sam. 12.5.

g Acts 9.1.&c. 1 Tim. 1.12.

h Iob 42.1.2.

i Pfal.51. 10. 13:

k Luke 22.33.

12 Cor.1.3,4.

m Gal.6.1.

from condemnation our felues: begging of the Lord cleane hearts and right spirits, and then teach Gods waies, that finners may be converted vnto him; bee first converted our selues, and then according to wisedomes k counsell, strengthen our brethren; be first comforted in our owne tribulation, that we may bee 1 able to comfort them which are in any trouble, with the same comfort wherewith wee our selues haue beene comforted of God: become spirituall, that wee may be mable to restore one ouertaken in a fault with the spirit of meeknesse, confidering our felues lest wee also bee tempted: otherwise it may be rightly faid vnto vs, as Christ said vnto the reprouing Pharises; Hypocrites, plucke

plucke out the beames out of your owne eyes first, that so you may see the motes in your brothers: and to the diseased Physician, Cure your selues first; and as Paul said to the formall Iew, we teach others, not our felues: and as it is now faid of diuers Preachers and professors, wee are good men onely while we are in the Pulpit and Congregation of the Saints; otherwise as those n prophessed of by the Apostle, as couetous, adulterous, and lasciuious as any others.

In which fearch, let vs in the first place enquire whether we haue received a will to doe the will of God, for fuch only hauea o promise to know do- o John 7.17. Arines, whether they bee of

God.

In the second place, whether

n 2 Tim. 2. 2 Pet. 2. Tud.

* Prou.19.2. p Pfal.49.20.

q Mat. 12. 50.

Rom, 2, 13.

r Gen 12.1.

ther we know the will of God, for without knowledge the mind is * euill, and man without P vnderstanding is as the beasts that perish.

In the third and last place whether according to our knowledge we doe the will of God, for not the knowers but the 4 doers shall be blessed.

If we have received a will to doe the will of God then are we with Abraham the Father of the faithfull, refolued, in obedience to Gods * command, to forfake our country, our kindred, and fathers house, to goe to a land the Lord will shew vs; yea, to sacrifice our beloued Sonnes, or what else focuer.

f Gen-32.2. t Mat.10 37. Luke 14 26.

If we know the wil of God, then have we fought after it, as Abraham and other holy

on es

ones did, after the u promised land, yea euen as men feeke for x filuer, and fearch for hid- x Prou, 2, v. 3,4. den treasure: crying out with the Prophet day and night vnto the Lord to bey taught it, preferring it, being found, zaboue all things that may bee defired.

If we doe the will of God, then the Seed of the Woman, according to the * promise, hath in vs bruifed the Serpents head, and destroied his works, | a 1 Iohn 3 8. and our minds, which were fometimes benmity against the b Rom. 8.7. Law of God, and not subject to the Law of God, neither indeed could bee, are now become subject to the Law of God, and so subject as to accompt it our meat and drinke to doe the will of God, for to be carnally minded, is death, bur

u Heb Ir.

y Pfal.119.33. z Pfal.19.10.

* Gen. 3-15.

c Rem. 8.6.

but to be spiritually minded,

is life and peace.

And so much for the generall enquiry; and lest peraduenture by feeming to know what we know not, we should deceiue our selues; Let vs in the next place descend into particulars, by enquiring what particular will, law, or doctrine of God, we doe know, by what Scriptures and reasons agreeable with Scripture we proue that knowledge, what Scriptures and reasons at least in seeming, make against that particular knowledge; how wee reconcile fuch feeming differences, and how our practice in that particular knowledge stands in tryall. And so much as a tast of particular triall.

But in what fociety to retaine our felues by reason of

the

the diuersities of separations both in judgement, person, and practice is the great controucrted question: for resolution wherereof, let vs consider that God is a God of order, and not of consusion.

Which God hath established an order of government, for distribution whereof, he hath appointed d Kings, and others in subordinate authority, as Iudges, and Ministers to, the end that we may lead a peaceable life in all godlinesse, and honesty, vnto which authority in euery commonweale, euery foule in that common-weale by command ediuine, is to be subject, & that for the Lords fake, whether the f persons in authority be good or bad. Which subjection is twofold: the first confisting

d Ecclef.8.2, 3.&c. Rom.13. 1 Tim.2.2. 1 Pet.2.13. Tit.3.1.

e As at letter d.

f 1 Pet.2.18.

5f

g Rom. 13.6,7.

h 1 Pet. 2, 19.&c & 3.14. Rom 13.2. Acts 4. 19, 20. & 5.29. i P101. 20.2. Rom. 13.2. k Exod. 22.28. Iam. 4.11. 2 Pet. 2.10. Iud. 8. of a willing doing what is by them 8 commanded that is not against the command of God. The second consisting of a patient h suffering for not doing what is by them commanded against God; without i rebelling in thought, word or action against that authoritie.

Doe we doubt of any particular command given by Authority, whether it be against God? Let vs then examine whether that doubt be derived either fro our owne thoughts, or from the councels & traditions of men, or fro the councels of God recorded in holy Scripture: from one of which grounds al doubts are derived.

If doubts arise from our owne thoughts the spiritual suggestions of Satan; or from the councels and traditions of

men

1 Ifay 65.28

m men onely the verball fuggestions of Satan, and we obey them against Authoritie, it is n Rebellion against God. But if doubts arife from the councels of God recorded in holy Scripture, wee ought to obey them, in suffering (as before) for not doing othem, and that vnder paine of condemnation. If the cause be so as truth hath proued it, then lamentable their condition, who through the thoughts of their Powne hearts the spiritual suggestions of Satan, or through the traditions & councels of 9 men the verball suggestions of Satan, haue and doe separate from the kingly gouernment Church and Common-weale established in this kingdome.

Let vs I beseech you consider the danger of beleeuing

m Ifay 30.1. & 31. I. Mat 15 3. 9.10. n As at m. n.

o Acts 4.19. & 5,29. Rom,14.23. I Cor.8.

p Isay 65.2.

q Isay 31.1. & 30.1. Mat. 15.3.9,10 Spirits without found tryall, discouered in those following Scriptures, Ier. 23. v. 16. 26. 27. 30. 32. Ezech. 22. v. 25. 2 Tim. 3.6. 7. 2 Pet. 2. v. 1.2. 3. 13. 14. to 22. Mat. 15. ver. 3. 6. 9.

Let vs consider the manifold admonitions to beware of men and doctrines discourred in those following Scriptures, Ier. 23. 16. Mat. 7. 15. and 24. 23. 24. Mar. 4. vcr. 24. Luke 8. 18. Acts 20. 28. to 32. 2. Cor. 11. 3. 4. 13. 14. 15. Gal. 1. 8. 1 Iohn 2.26. and 3.7. and 4.1.

Let vs consider the manifold directions for triall of men and doctrines discouered in these following Scriptures, Iosu. 1.8 Isay 8.20. Iohn 5.39. and 17.12 and 20.31. Rom. 15.4. 1 Cor. 10.11. Col. 3.16. 2 Tim. 3.

15.16.

15. 16. 17. Heb. 4. 12. 2 Pet. 1. v. 19. &c.

Let vs confider examples of men observing those directions discovered in those Scriptures, Mat. 4. 4. 8. 10. Luke 4. 4. 8. and 24. 45. Acts 17. 11. and 18.24. to 28. 1 Tim. 4. 15. 2 Tim. 3. 15.

In the vse of which directions, let vs consider those cautions discouered in those following Scriptures, Deut. 4.2. Prou. 30. 6. Reu. 22. 18. 19.

Let vs confider examples of men neglecting the confideration of the faid cautions difcouered in those following Scriptures, 2 Sam. 6.3.6.7. Leuit. 10. 1. 2. 2 Pet. 3. 16. 1 Tim. 6.3.4.2 Tim. 4. ver. 3. 4. 15.

Let vs confider how men are enabled profitably to pra-

ctice the faid directions discouered in those Scriptures, Mat. 11. 25. and 13. 11. Luke 24.31.45.&c. John 14.26. and 15.26 and 16.13. Acts 1.8. I Cor.2, 12.

Let vs consider the ordinary way of obtaining abilitie to understand the said directions discouered in those Scriptures Mat. 7.7. 3. Luke 11. 9. to 14. Iohn 16.23. Iames 1:5. Phil.4. ver. 6.

Let vs in that way consider those cautions discouered in those Scriptures, Isay 1.15.16. 17. Iames 4. 3. Mat. 21. 22. and 6.14. I Cor. 10.31.

Let vs consider examples of men obseruing those cautions, 1 Kings 3.5. to 14. 1 Sam. 1.17 10.20.

And in any wise let vs not despise gouernment, be pre-

fump-

fumptuous, selfe-willed, speak euill of dignities, or of such things as we know not, lest we bee iustly branded with the markes of such as walke after the slesh in the lusts of vicleannesse, 2 Pet. 2. 10. Iude 8. 9. 10.

Neyther let vs separate our selves from any, but r such being called brethren, that are fornicators, or couetous, or adulterous, or drunkards, or

extortioners.

And fuch account not as enemies, but admonish them as brethren, vnlesse were could know that they were reprobates not to be prayed for; not forgetting but wee our selues, and all worhers, were somtimes vnwise, disobedient, following diuers lusts and pleasures, liuing in malice and enuy, hate-

r 1 Cor.5.11. 2 Tirel 3 6.14. 2 Tim.3 5.

f 2 Thes. 3.15.

t Mat. 12 32. 1 John 5. 16. Tit. 3. 10, 11.

u Tit.3.3.

x Iud.18,19. Isay 65.5: full, hating one another, left webeiustly branded with the * markes of sensual ones, ha-

uing not the spirit.

If any perswade with vs to deny obedience to any ordinance by authority established in this kingdome: Let vs aske such perswaders, whether such an ordinance be against an ordinance of God, and what that ordinance of God is.

And let vs take their answers in writing, confirmed by Scripture for the better helpe of our weake and brittle memories, and thereof, together with such as are of contrary indgement and practice (such of them I meane as wee conceive to bee most conscionable,) consider, preparing our selves by * prayer vnto God for his gracious assistance, see-

* Mat.7.7.
Marke 11.23.
Luke 11.13.
Lohn 16.23.

king therein only Gods glory, *benefit of our owne and others foules; and then we cannot but in a seasonable time receive certaine resolution, for he who is powerfull and faithfull, hath promised a prosperous successe to such manner of seeking.

If such perswaders refuse to giue their answers in writing, whereby they may come to triall, wee have great cause to suspect them to bee of that number discouered in those Scriptures: Ezec. 13. 3. 4.

2 Tim. 3.6.7.

For every one that doth euill, hateth the light, neither y commeth to the light, y Iohn 3.19.20. lest his deeds should bee reproued.

But hee that doth truth, commeth to the light, that z Iohn 3.20,21.

* 1 Cor. 1.31. & 10.31. Iames 4.3.

B 2

his

a Luke 1.74,75. b Rom. 8.15.

c 2 Tim.1.7.

d 1 Iohn 4, 17.13

e Kay 31.1.

his deeds may be made manifest they are wrought in God, doth serve the Lord in holimesse and righteousnesse without a feare, hath not received the spirit of bondage to b feare againe, but the spirit of adoption, by which he crycth Abba Father.

Euen the c spirit of power, loue, and of a sound mind, for persect loue d casteth out seare.

If the cause bees so, as truth hath proued it, then miserable their condition, perswading and perswaded, to commit secret murthers, by poysoning, stabbing, or undermining Parliament or inserior houses, trusting in the strength of their owne inuented policies, neglecting the counsels of the holy e One of Israel, who neuer taught, much lesse practised such

fuch bloody stratagems: neglecting also the counsels of that Apostle, who was not inferior to the greatest among the twelue, aduising his Disciples to follow him f as he followed Christ, and to hold such 5 accursed who preach any other Gospel vnto them then he had preached.

If any perswade vs to deny superiority of place, in the Church of Christ among the ministers of Christ for the better order and government of

the Church,

Let vs aske them what moued the h Church of Antioch, to fend to Ierusalem to the Apostles to receive directions from them, for appeasing the troubles there raised by those Pharises, labouring to bring againe in practice the Law of

f 1 Cor.11.1. g Gal.1.8,9.

h Acts 15.2.

B 3

car-

i Acts 15.43.
I Cor.8.
Col.2. I Tim.
2 Tim. Tit.
Heb.
k I Cor.5.
2 Cor.2.6
Reu 2. Reu 3.
I Acts 15.22.36
* According to that method

this Preface.

carnall ordinances, discontinued by the Apostles preaching: and what moved the Apostles to i write, and by such specially chosen men, so many Epistles to the many troubled Churches, for directions in k discipline and doctrine, and in person to 1 visit them, and taketheir answers, as formerly.

Let vs, I befeech you, *look among the feparated congregations, and confider their manifold divisions both in judgement and practice, and there we cannot but fee even a Babel of confusion, feparating each from other, even for fome small differences in judgement; excommunicating holier and better men then themselves: yea, even such as they cannot megally take either with fornication; coverous.

m i Cor. 5.11 2 Thesi3.14,15 tousnesse, idolatry, railing, drunkennesse, extortion, or the like. And that onely for not submitting in cuery thing to their iudgements, contrary to the Apostles directions.

If the cause bee so, as truth and common experience proues; Then miserable their condition, who stand vnited in judgement and practice to thole separated congregations, whose eyes God grant a spee-

dy opening.

That we may profitably vse what in this small volume is comprehended, Let vs, as formerly is directed and commanded, prepare our felues by earnest prayer vnto God in the name of Christ, for the holy n Spirit in these and all other needfull things to direct vs therein, wholly ayming at Gods B 4

1 Cor. 2.1 I.

1 Cor.5.11.

n Iohn 14.26

Gods glory, faluation of our own and others foules, which that wee may, I befeech God for Christ Icsus sake to grant.

You may, if God will, remember with me, that godlinesse is not onely a o mystery, but a P great mystery which a naturall man receiveth not, for it is foolishnesse vnto him; neither can he know it, because it is spiritually 4 discerned: which mystery, multitude of enlightned ones, after the knowledge therof is come vnto them, r loue not; and thereby as a secondary meanes, draw on themselues swift destruction: And that mystery not so easie to bee attained vnto, though a teaching Separatist, to me lately (lying in my ficke bed, and much troubled in mind about the confidera-

tion

o 1 Cor.2.7. Eph.3 9. p 1 Tim 3 16.

q I Cor.2.14.

r Iohn 349, Rem. 1.7-to 29. 2 Thef. 2-10 Th. 3-11 Heb 6 4, 8, 6.8 c. & 10.26. 2 Pet. 2.20, 21. &c. tion of the differences contained in these following lines) otherwise affirmed, saying; That Predestination and Baptisme were so easie to bee vnderstood, as that a naturall man might plainly discerne them: And the truth is, that that Predestination and Baptilme which that separation maintaines is so easie to bee vnderstood, as that a naturall man indeed may plainly discerne them, witnesse the multitudes of their disciples receiuing them, and groffe and palpable ignorance in maintaining them, or any other particular mystery of godlinesse; and more carelesse, and more vnchristian after walking, &c. according to those descriptions of fuch men(for the Saints informations and admoniti-Ons) fRom.2,17: to 25. 2 Tim.3. 1.&c. 2 Pet: 2.1,2.&c. Iude 3.&c.

t ler.6.16. u Mat.7.14. Luke 13.24

x Ier.6.16. y Mat.23.2,3. z 1 Thel 5.21 1 Iohn 4.1. ons) long fithence laid downe in holy f Scripture.

Among the many wayes fupposed to lead towards heauen, the good way is onely one, and that way is the 'old way (a narrow way in which few walke) which brings rest to the soules of them that walke therein; yea euen in this present life, and that in the middest of their greatest afflictions.

Therefore according to the *Prophets, Christ y Iesusthe Prince of Prophets, and his z Apostles counsels, stand in the wayes and enquire for that old way, and walke therein, that so you may, as others have done, find rest to your soules.

In which enquirie obserue

this method.

1. Their seuerall doctrines

and

and produced proofes.

2. The qualifications of fuch as they admit into memberhood, and their manner of fuch admittance.

3. The causes and manner of their Excommunications and

absolutions.

4. The qualifications, elections, admissions, inductions of the dispensators, administrators, in order among them.

5. The excommunications and absolutions, passed vpon men in that order and causes

thercof.

6. The generall behaviour of the said dispensators and people dispensed vnto both in Church and common meetings.

7. The particular betraying policies for the enlargement

of their kingdome.

Euery

a Eph.6.18. 1 Thef.5.17. b Isay 8.20. c Ier. 23.39. Mat.3.10. Mal.2.122.&c.

Euery of which, for the helpe of memory, & common benefit of present and future ages, after enery meeting to record in Paper vnder its particular proper head, and thereupon prepared by a Prayer to repayre to the b Law and testimony, the c fire, hammer, axe, touchstone of truth, and learned Elders appointed by God to help you in vnderstanding thereof: And so much at this time, and in this place, for the methods, observations, and triall of men and doctrines.

The

The fummary contents of the Epistle.

Description of the Authors In fight of his sometimes ignorant milleadings.

The common qualities and conditions of mans naturall descent from bis

carnall parents.

The qualities and conditions of cleited and rejected ones enlightned.

Rules to try mens present stations.

Rules to trie the foundnesse of ones owne and others knowledge.

Rules of triall in what Church, Congregation, freest from offending God, for man to retaine bim(elfe in practice of religious duties.

How in point of gouernment towards gouernors man is to behave himselfe.

Directions in point of doubts.

Danger of beleeving (pirits without triall:

Rules of triall in command and pra-Etice.

Cautions in practice of the faid rules. How

THE CONTENTS.

How men are enabled and prepared to try.

Cautions observable in that preparation and benefit to the observers.

Directions for generall behaviour towards brethren.

A description of the lamentable condition of persons led by imagination of their owne thoughts, councels, and traditions of men.

That godline se is a mystery.

That the good way is onely one, and brings rest to their soules that walke therein.

Directions how to finde out that good way.

The

The summary Contents of the leaves, in number, are certaine Reasonings for and against Gods decree of Election and Relection before time, manifestation of the same decree in time, (viz.) before separation of spirits from bodies of sless, and immurability thereof. In order of proceeding is laid downe.

Gods secret decree, manifestation, and immutabilitie thereof.

Obiections inforced with Scriptures and reasons drawne

from them.

Answers to the obiections.

The manifold and grosse abfurdities issuing from the said objections.

The destrines against Predefination, please the flesh, and luls men asleepe, maintaining the same in carelesse security,

THE CONTENTS.

contrary whereunto is Predestinations destrine.

A description of Antichrist, in head, members and acctrines, in opposition to Christ, in head, members, and doctrines.

Adescription of Christ and Antichrists manner, and necrenesse of comming, inplaine and manifest discovery.

The Creations description, changes, gonernment and end

thereof.

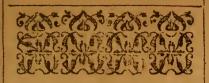
Rules for reconciling Scriptures.

Arguments against Reall presence in the Sacrament.

To separate from hearing of the publike Preachers, established in the Church of England, as many doe, is antichristian.

A briefe description of the diners kinds of professed Christians.

The



THE VNMASKING of the Man of Sinne.

Reasonings for and against the doitrine of Predestination, &c. 10 much controuerted in the world.

Hat God the Father hath from the beginning, before the foundation of the

world, a foreknown, fore-prepared, predestinated, d purposed, e ordained, f willed, s loued, h elected, according to his good i pleasure, some to be vessels of k mercy, to the adoption of 1 Children; which some, the same God and Father, hath likewise pre-

a Rom. 8.29.

b Rom. 9.23. c Rom.8.29.

Eph. 1. 5 11. d Rom.8.28.

& 9.11. e Acts 13.48. f Rom. 8.27.

Eph. 1. 5.9.

g Ro.9.13. 1 Iohn 4.13. h Rom.9 11. Eph. 1.4. 2 Theff. 2.13 Ro. 11. v.5.7.28. 1 Pcr. 1.2. 1 Eph. 1.5.9. k Ro. 9.23. 1 Eph 1.5

m Rom.8.29. hph.4.24. Col. 3.10. Eph.1.4. & 2.10.

n Eph. 1.4.
o Deut. 30.6.
Icr. 31.18, 19.
Efay 26. 12.
Ezec. 11.19.
& 36. 26, 27.
Eph. 2.10.

p Prou. 19 21. Efay. 14. 2+27. Mal. 3.6. Iam. 1.17.

q Gen 3.15. Mat.1.21. Luk.3.16,17.

Heb. 11.3. r Elay 44.3. & 59.21. 1 Cor. 6.11. Rom. 8.2.

f Acts 1.7.

destinated, ordained to be conformed, to the m Image of his Sonne Christ Iesus; to be holy and without "blame, before him in loue: which purpose, ordination, predestination, and persons so predestinated; the same God, and o Father, with whom is no variablenes, or shadow of p turning; by his 9 Word and " Spirit, in his appointed times and featons, knowne onely to himselfe, doth bring to manifestation. And them according ro his promise, doth perpetually preserue. And thereof, while they live in their bodies of earth, gives them certaine " afforance; in order of proceeding, thus: For those, whom he did so * foreknow, and predestinate, them hee called, and whom hee called, them he also iusti-

t Gen. 18.19. Efay 59.21. & 35.10. & 60.20,21,22. Ier. 32.37. to 43. Ezec. 36. 24. to 36. Mat. 1, 20, 21. Iohn 10. 27, 28. & 17.20. to 24. 1 Cor. 10.13. 1 Ioh 3.9 & 5.18. u Pfal. 116.8. Rom. 8.2. 2 Tim. 4.7, 8. 18. 2 Cor. 10. 3. to 6. & 13.5.8. 1 Iohn 3.14. & 4.12. to 17. & 5.3. compared with Iohn 13. 1. x Rein. 8. 28. to 31.

fied, and whom hee iustified, them

he also glorified.

That a certaine number likewise were y before of old, ordained to condemnation, made to be raken & z destroied, vessels of wrath, fitted to * destruction, hated * before euer they did euill, whom the Lord a turneth to destruction, and by his Ministers makes their hearts b far, their eares heavy, and shuts their eies, lest they should see with their eies, and heare with their eares, and understand with their hearts, and convert and be healed.

Which fore-ordination to condemnation, and persons so ordained, the same God and Father, by his word, and Spirit, in his appointed times, and seasons, knowne onely to chimselse, doth bring to manifestation; of whom it is prophesied in particular, that they shall seeke for mercy, and not e finde it; and in generall, though the number y Iud.4.

z 2 Pet. 2. 12. 1 Pet. 2. 8.

* Rom. 9.22.

* Rom. 9.11. to 14.

a Pfal.90.3.

b Efay 6.9, 10. Mat 13.11. 13. & 11. 25. Iohn 6.29. I Cor. 2.8. Phil. 1.29.

Col. 1.12.

c Acts 1.7. d Gen. 4.11.12 13. &c. 1 Sam 16,14 & 31.4. I Kin. 22.24 Mat. 27.5.

I uke 23.30. Re. 6. 15,16 Marke 14.21 Rom. 1. 32.

Mat. 12. v.3 1, 32.43,44,45.

1 Iohn 5.16. Heb 6.4,5,6. & 10.4.26 27.1 Pet,2,20,21. 2 Tim.3

e Luk.13.24. Mat.7 23. &25.11,12.

f Rom.927.

g Luke 12.32.

h Mat.7.14.

i Mat.20.16.

r Generall Proposition.

2 Generall Proposition,

3 Generall Proposition.

4 Generall Proposition. of Ifrael be as the fand of the fea, yet but a remnant shall be faued; That Christs flock is a flittle flock; That the way to heauen is narrow, and the gate strait, and h few goe in thereat; That many are called, but ifew chosen, &c.

Which Doctrines have of long continuance beene opposed by some; a very little time, (viz. sithence the occasion of the late Synod of Dort,) by innumerable multitudes, in these words, viz.

That God doth love, and elect, hate, and reject, not before time, viz. before the foundation of the world; but in time, viz. vpon the good, & evill actions of men done.

And that after such election, there is a possibility of reiection.

After such rejection, there is a

possibility of re-election.

And that man elected, or reieted, knowes not, till separation of the spirit from the body of flesh, whether he shall inherit heaven or hell.

For

For confirmation of which oppolition, they produce these following Scriptures: Ezec. 18. 23. 31.32. Mat. 23. 37. 2 Pet. 3.9. and 2, 1. 1 Tim. 5. 12. Rom. 5.1. and 11.21.22. Ioh. 15.2. Reu. 2.4. with many other like places, among which these most coulorable for their said oppositions.

A generall Answer to the fore-ested foure generall Propositions.

Or that the said propositi-Lons, are drawne from imaginary conceipts of humane wifedome, and for that they are manifest denials of the former testimonies recorded by direction of the holy Ghost: And for that the Scriptures produced to proue them, are abused, and wrested from their intendments: And for that wee are to holde the bringers of such dostrines accursed, though Angels from Heaven; there- Gal.1.7.2. fore a bare deniall of them,

I Cor 1, 20, 21. 25 to 21. & 2, 4. & 3.18. 19. Mat. 11. 25.

is a sufficient answere to satisfie understanding persons: But for the helpe of weake ones, and speedier ending of the controuersie, I have by Gods assistance drawne their produced Scriptures into seuerall Silogismes, viz: argumentall reasons, in the most colourable manner, the extent of my received gift hath enabled me to proue their faid propositions, together with seuerall Answers to them, in which labour I haue specially aymed at the matter, and that for the common good, not at the exactnesse of the forme, with which Schollers onely are acquainted.

Arguments drawne from the first generall Proposition, viz: against Election before time, are in number twelne.

ARGMENT I.

If they, mentioned in the text,
were elected before the foun-

dation of the world, and that election, absolute, perpetuall, and vnchangeable, then they cannot but returne and live.

But they, mentioned in the text,

may not returne, and liue.

Therefore before the foundation of the world, they were not elected.

The Answer to the said Argument is twofold; viz:

Speciall. S

Answer generall.

The people preached vnto, mentioned in that Scripture, were of two forts, viz. Elected ones, Reiested ones: of whom it is spoken, that though their number be as the sand of the Sea, yet but a remnant shall bee saued. Of the whole world in generall; That though many bee called, yet but sew are schosen: That the way to heaven is narrow, and the gate strait, and sew goe

Ezech. 18. 23.

Rom 9 27.

f Mat, 20.16.

t Mat 7.14.

C 4 ,

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u Luke 13. 34.

in thereat, and that many shal seeke to enter, and shall not be " able.

The word (they,) in the generall argument, importing the people preached vnto, I distinguish thus, viz. (they) in the Maior propolition are the *elected ones, (they) in the Minor are the rejected ones.

Rom. 9.27.

Secondly, of the second, viz: the speciall Answer.

If they, that is to say, elected ones, were by God the Father, from the beginning, before the foundation of the world, foreknowne, foreprepared, predestinated, purposed, ordained, willed, loued, elected, according to his good pleasure, to be velfels of mercie, to the adoption of children, and that God the Fa. ther worketh all things after the councell of his owne a will; and that his will is b immutable, whom no power is able to crefist, for Mal.3.6. Iames 1. 17. whom nothing is too dhard, with c Rom.9 19,20 whom althings are possible, whose

Answer to the major of their first Argument drawne from their first generall proposition, against election before time.

a Eph. r. rr. b Pro. 19. 21.

d Gen. 18.14.

e Mat. 19. 26.

redeeme, out of whose hand not any 8 can deliuer; who killeth, and maketh aliue, who woundeth, and healeth; and besides whom there is no God; that no one can lay any thing to the charge of Gods Elect; that it is God that suffisheth, hwho can condemne, then they cannot but returne and live.

But they, viz. elected ones, God the Father, who is immutable, and doth what he* will, hath from the beginning, before the foundation of the world, foreknowne, foreprepared, predeftinated, purposed, erdained, willed, loued, elected, according to his good pleasure, to be vetlels of mercy, to the adoption of children:

Therefore they, viz. the cleeded ones, cannot but returne and line.

If they, viz. Rejected ones, were before of old, ordained to condemnation, made to be taken and destroyed, vessels of wrath sitted to destruction, hated before they did euill, and that God the Father, is

f Esay 50.2. g Deut. 32.39.

hRom.8.33.34.

* As fol. r. from let: * to letter * & fol. 8 9. from letter * to letter h manifestly appeareth.

Answer to the N inor of the first argument drawne from the first generall proposition against election before time.

* As fol.1. * 2 Pct.2.12. vnchangeable, &c. as in the former argument, and that it is hee that condemneth, woundeth, & healeth. Then they cannot returne and liue.

But reiected ones were before of *old ordained to condemnation, *made to be taken and destroyed, being vessels of wrath, fitted to destruction, hated before they did euill, and that God the Father, that made them, is vnchangeable, &c as in the former argument; who condemneth, woundeth and healeth.&c.

Therefore they cannot returne and liue.

ARGUMENT 2.

Drawne from the faid first generall

Proposition.

IF Repentance be the condition of faluation, and repentance be in time, Then mans election to faluation is in time, viz. vponthe manifestation of the worke of repentance: not before time, viz. before the foun-

foundation of the world.

But Repentance is in time, and Repentance is the condition of fal-

Therefore election is in time, &c. not before time.

The Answer to the said Argument.

S a faluation is a free gift of God, so is b Repentance to salnation likewise: From whence I reason thus:

If Repentance to saluation, and Saluation, be the free gifts of God, and that to fuch onely as God gives epentance to saluation, he likewise giues faluation: and that fuch to whom hee gives faluation, were beore the foundation of the world, oreknowne, fore prepared, predetinated, purposed, ordained, wiled, loued, celected, according to e As Fol. 1. nis good pleasure, to be vessels of nercy, to be conformed to the Inage of his Sonne Christ Iesus, to be holy and without blame before

z 2 Pet.3.9.

a Ier, 17.14. Eph. 2. 8. b z Tim.2.25 Acts 5. 31.

him

him in loue, and that fuch cannot but repent and liue.

Then Election was before time, and Repentance in time, onely a

manifestation of Election.

But dRepentance to faluation, as · Saluation, is the free gift of God, and to fuch onely as he gives repentance to faluation, hee gives faluation.

Therefore Election is before time, and Repentance in time onely a manifestation of Election.

ARGVMENT 3. Drawne from the first generall Proposition.

TF the Lord be not willing that Lany should perish, but that all should come to repentance, and line.

Then the Lord did not before time will or decree that any shold perish.

But the Lord is f vnwilling that any should perish.

Therefore the Lord did not be-

forc

d 2 Tim. 2. 25 e Icr. 17, 14. Eph. 2.8. 2 Cor. 7. 10 Acts 5. 31

f Ezec. 13. Y.23.31.32. Mat. 23.37. 2 Pet.3.9.

fore time will or decree that any hould perish.

ARGUMENT 4. Drawne from the said first generall Proposition.

IF the Lord did will that any Lshould perish, then the Lord ath contrary wils, viz. a fecret will, ontrary to his renealed will.

But the Lord hath not contrary ils, neither doth s change his pur- g Rom, 11.29.

ofe.

Therefore the Lord wils not nat any should perish.

ARGUMENT 5. Irawne from the faid first Proposition.

F men in time may deny the Lord that bought them, & therebring vpon themselves swift deruction,

Then they were not destroyed fore time, but in time.

But men in time may h deny the h 2 Per.2,1. Lord

Pro. 19.21. May 14.24.27 Lord that bought them, and thereby bring vpon themselues swift de struction:

Therefore men were not destroyed before time, but in time.

Answer to the said 3.4.and 5. Arguments drawne from the first generall Proposition.

The word Lord in Scripture. hath divers acceptations, reduced by the Prophet to two generals, viz. the i Lord the Father, my Lord the Son. And that the Lord the Sonne is vnderstood in the said three Arguments, who as hee was man k could not do what he would: and not the Lord the Father, who (as formerly) could doe what he would.

Which diffinction the Opposers not understanding, or willingly concealing, doe confound the persons of the Deitie, by making no distinction betweene Father and Sonne, mediated & mediator, & c.

AR-

i Mark. 12, 30. Ifay 54. 5. I I im. 2.4.5 Gen. 19.24

k Mat. 20.23 Iohn 5.19 30 & 6. 37.44. 65.

ARGUMENT 6.

Drawne from their said first generall Proposition.

TF destruction be in time, then not before time. But destruction is in 1 time. Therefore not before time.

1 2 Pet. 2. 1.

ARGUMENT 7. Drawne from the said Proposition.

IF mans casting off of faith bee in time, and men for casting off faith have condemnation:

Then mans condemnation, was not before time, but in time.

But mans casting off of faith, was in meime, not before time, and man m 1 Tim. 5.12 or casting off of faith had condemnation.

Therefore mans condemnation is n time, not before time.

AR=

ARGUMENT 8. Drawne from the said first generall Proposition.

F mans leaving, and falling from Lloue, be in time, & man for leauing and falling from loue, bceame subject to condemnation: Then mans condemnation is in time, not before cime.

But mans leaving and falling from loue is in n time,

Therefore mans condemnation is in time, not before time.

Answere to the said 6.7, and 8. Argument.

Ime in Scripture hath divers 1 acceptations, reduced to two generals, viz. Time as it is in account with God; time as it is in account with man.

As it is in account with God, Christ was chaine from the foundation of the world. As it is in account with

m RCHIZAS

cReu.13.8.

with man, when hee suffered vpon the k Crosse. As it is in account with God, Abraham was a Father of many nations 1 before there was a nation of his seed. As it is in account with man, when hee had divers m children. As it is in account with God, Paul was a chosen vessell before hee ever preached Christ, or walked in the duties of the Gospell. As it is in account with man, when hee preached Christ, and walked in othe duties of the Gospell Many other are the like instances.

With God al times are present, & in his account one day is as a thou-sand yeares, and a thousand yeares as one day. In account with man are minutes, howres, dayes, weeks, moneths, yeres, according to which account, such things as God in his secret counsell had decreed are manifested. For God in Scriptures as speaketh of things that are not manifest as though they were manifested. So hath condemnation likewise divers acceptations, viz:

k Mat. 27. 50.

1 Gen. 17.5

m Gen.21. v. 1

n Acts 9.15:

o Acts 9.18.19.

p 2 Pet. 3.8.

q Rom. 4. 17. ler. 50. 2. lohn 16. 32 & 17. 1. Mat. 26. 28. Mark 14. 24 Luke 22. 19. 1 Pet. 1. 20. Reu. 21. 6 temporall, Rom. 3. 12. 14. 16. 18. 1 Cor. 6. 9. 10. 11. Tit. 3. 3. &c. eternall, Mat. 12. 31. 32. 45. Ioh. 3. 19. 20. Rom. 1. 18. to 32. Heb. 6. 4. 5. 6. & 10. 26, to 31. 2 Pet. 2. 20. Iude 4. 5. 6. 7. 12.

What God decrees before time, bee dorb manifest in time. Heb. 4. 3.

Of which the Oppoters feeme likewise to be ignorant.

ARGUMENT 9.
Drawne from the said first Proposition

If election to glory, rejection from glory, bee before time,
Then it will follow, that men

elected, live they never so ill, shall becsaued; men reiected live they never so well shall be damned.

Which conclusion doth lull men assessed in carelesse security, and makes them neglect every Christian duty, and vtter these words, viz. If they be predestinated to saluation, they shall be saued, live they never so ill.

If to condemnation, they shall be condemned live they never fo well.

But men continuing in an euill course to their death, shall be damned.

Men returned from their euils, and therin continue shall be faued.

Therefore Election to glory, Reiection from glory, is not before time, but in time.

Answer to the said ninth Argument.

S election to glory (as formerly is proued) is before time, fo likewise before time it was decreed that fuch as were elected should line well. The cause of which E. lection is Gods mloue, not mans well doing: for mans both well willing and well doing is the n gift of God, and not mans gift by deriuation from earthly parents; but well willing accompanyed with well doing are o signes of Gods election, and given by God to man for manifestation of that decree, and

f Ezec.18,24.

t Ezec.18. 21.23.

As fol. I. letter m. n. m Isay 41.8.9

1 Io.4. 10.19 n Phil. 2.13

Mat. 12.50. Iohn 13 17 1 lohn 2.5. & 3.14

& 5.2.

p Heb. 4.12 \

q Rom, 15.4

r Luke 18.10.11 Isay 65.5. I Psal, 51 t Acts 9.6 v Acts 16.30 x Acts 2.37.

the Scriptures written for tryall of the truth of that Pinanifestation, that menthrough patience and comfort of them might have 9 hope: such men I meane as at least have receiued that gift to will well, others haue no comfort but torment by the Scriptures, viz.not such as with the Pharises insensible of their spirituall misery, try others hearts, not their owne: but such as with Caine, Esau, Achitophel, Indas, &c. among the reiested ones; & David, Paul, the " layler, the three x thousand, among the elected ones, after their enlightning, and before their affuring, which duly confidered will giue an enlightned one no further rest or liberty till his affurance of pardo, then a condemned one by an carthly Judge vnexecuted, or one suffering shipwracke farre distant from any dry land, to secure his safety. Which consideration will keepeall men from careleffe securitie, lest men without hope, whose worme in conscience neuer y dyes,

y liay 66. 24 Mar. 9. 44. 49

nor

nor fire euer goes out: or fuch who by reason of their consciences being z feared, are past fense & feeling

of their spirituall misery.

As good fruit is not the cause but. figne of the trees goodnetle: fo neither is well willing nor well doing the cause, but signe of mens goodneile.

As the tree by art of the planter and grafter is made good, and so by dunging, pruning, and watering of the planter, preserved till and after histime of bearing fruit: so man by God is made good, and by him preserved till and after the time of his bringing forth the fruits of holinesse and righteousnesse, as formerly.

ARGUMENT 10: Drawne from the said first generall proposition.

IF God before time, viz. before men had done euill, did decree and make men for destruction; Then God is vniust, vnmercifull.

z Eph. 4. 19. 1 Tim.4, 1.2.

Fol. I.

* 2 Cor.1.3.

But God is not * vniust, vnmer-

Therefore God did not before time, decree, and make men for de-struction.

Answer to the said 10. Argument.

I Niustice, vomercifulnesse, consists or discouers it selfe by breach of Law.

a Gen, 22, 2.

But God is not subject or a tied to any Law.

Therefore God in decreeing, as before, is not vniult, nor vnmer-cifull.

If it be not accompted iniustice, vnmercisulnesse, in an earthly King, in appointing Subjects of equal ranke, of equal desert; or a b Potter of the same lump of clay, vessels to worthier and baser offices: why should it bee accompted iniustice, vnmercisulnesse, in the King of Kings, Creator of all creatures, of one and the same blood, to make and appoint, some men for honor,

fome

c Acts 17. 26.

b Rom.9.21

some for dishonor? shall not the faid King and Creator doe with his owne what hee lifterh without controule of the Creature, and that without rendring the Creature an daccompt of his doings?

But it is not accompted iniustice, vnmercifulnetle, in a King, in a Potter, so to appoint and dispose of his

Subiects, his vellels.

Therefore much leffe ought it to beaccompted iniustice, vnmercifulnesse in God, so to appoint and dispose of his Subjects and creatures.

ARGUMENT II.

Drawne from the first generall Proposition.

TF God before time, did decree, and make men for destruction, Then Gods decree, not sinne, is the cause of destruction.

But e sinne is the cause of destru- e Ezec 184 ation.

Therefore God did not before time

d. Iop 33, 13.

time decree, and make men for de-

Answer to the said 11. Argument.

As Gods purpose and decree (as formerly is proued) is the Primary fcause, his Word and Spirit, and mans obedience, the secondary cause of mans saluation; so Gods decree is the primary cause, & mans disobedience, through the ministery of false Prophets, the Secondary cause of mans destruction.

As a Miller, by and through the water wheele, and stone, &c. doth grinde the Corne; so h God, by and through his Word, and k Spirit, and man prepared by him therevnto, doth destroy the Deuils power in man, and thereby manifest mans election, and so preserves him for glory, and thereof gives him assurance: Such likewise is the order of Reprobation; which severall decrees, by mans obedience and

f Fol. r.

g 2 Tim.3.6.13 2 Pet, 2.1.2. 3. 12. 10 20. Mat, 23.15. & 24.24. Act 20. 29. h Deut. 30.6. Ier. 31 18.19 Isay 26.12. i Gen. 3.15. Mar. 1.21. Luke 3.16.17 Heb. 9 14. k Isay 44-3. & 56.21. i Cor. 6.11.

Rom. 8. 2.

and disobedience, in Gods appointed time comes to manifestation.

ARGVMENT 12.

Drawne from the faid first generall

Proposition.

IF God before time, did decree, and make men for destruction. Then God would not bid such men repent, whom he purposeth to destroy.

But God bids all Yrepent.

Therefore God did not decree, and make any for destruction.

Answer to the said 12. Argument.

As Gods commanding Adam and after him all Israel, to keep the Law, under paine of condemnation, and losing the comforts of saluation, was to make man know his owne hweaknesse, and thereby to humble and pluck downe the pride of mans heart, and to make man iconfesse and acknowledge his Creators k power, wel knowing

y 2 Pqt.3.9.

h Romi 8.7 Deut. 5.29 & 30.14. Luke 18.27 Acts 15.9.10 i Gen. 3.10. & 4:13.14. 1 Sam. 15.

1 Sam. 15. 24.25, &c. 2 Sam.12.5.

Ier. 31.19. Iob 42.3. Mat.27. 3.43 Rom. 8.7.

Iohn 15.5.

k Rom. 8. v. 7. Ioh. 15. 5.

not able to keepe them; even to God commanding all the sonnes of Agam to repent under paine of condemnation, and losing the ioies of faluation, is to make them all in generall to know their owne weakneise, as Adam in particular; thereby to humble and plucke downe the pride of all, that so all so well as any might be constrained to confelle and acknowledge their Creators power, well knowing that of their owne power they are 1 vnable to repent and worke out their own faluation; and that men might not, as some did m ascribe the cause of their destruction to their Fathers weakeneile.

12 Tim.2.v.25.
Ioh. 15. 5.
Act. 5. 3 1.
Heb. 12. 17.
m Eze. 18.v.1,
2, 3, 4.

Their

Their said second generall Proposition; viz. That a man eletted, may afterwards fall away, and be destroyed: from which are drawne Arguments seanen.

ARGUMENT I.

From the said second generall Propolition.

F truth hath said, that men bought by the Lord, shall afterwards deny the Lord that bought them, and bring vpon themselues Swift destruction :

Then men bought by the Lord, may afterwards fall away, and bee destroyed.

But truth hath said, that men bought by the Lord, shall afterwards " deny the Lord that bought | 2 Pct 2.1. them, and bring vpon themselues swift destruction.

Therefore men bought by the Lord may afterwards fall away, and be destroyed.

An

n Ioh. r. 7. Rem. 5. v. 18 & 3.25. 1. Cor. 12. V. 13.&15.V.22 2.Cor.5.V.14 Col. 1. V. 20. I Tim. 2. v.6. Heb. 2. v. 9. &9. 15. r Joh. 2. V.2. o Exod 21. V.2. Lcu.25. V.40 Deut, 15. ver. 12,8cc. ICE- 34. V. 14 p Exo.21. v.5.6. G Leu 25. V.4+. 45.46. r loh. 8. v. 35. & 13.10,11. 1. Joh. 2. 19. 2 Tim.2. 20. Math. 13,4,&c. I Cor.3.12,&c. f Heb. 3. v. 5.

EHcb.3. ver.6.

u Num.14.v.30.
* As fol. 1.2.

Answer to the said 1. Argument.

As there was a generall Redemption out of Egypts seruitude carnall:

So is there out of a Egypts seruitude spirituall.

As the Families of Israel consisted of o freemen, P servants, and 9 bond-men:

So likewise doth the families, of Christians.

As the instrument in the deliuery out of Egypt carnall, was Moses:

So the Instrument in delivery out of Egypt spirituall, is Christ.

The first Instrument a f servant,

As among them deliuered by Moses, Caleband Ioshua only "entred into earthly Canaan, others returned backe, or died in the wildernesse:

So among them delivered by Christ-asimall number * enter into spirituall Canaan, of which earthly Canaan was a Tipe; others returne backe. As

As those deliuered by Moses, which returned, * distrusted the promises of the Father:

So those deliuered by Christ, which returne, y distrust the pro-

mise of the Sonne.

As fonnes, so feruants, in the Families of Israel, according to the slesh, had their habitation together for a time:

So feruants as fonnes, in the families of Christians have likewise their habitations together for a time.

As feruants in and of the Families of Israel, according to the flesh are of two kindes; viz.

Some for a time, others for ever, neither of which to be ruled over with rigor:

So are therelikewise in the Fa-

milies of Christians.

As in the Families of Israel were besides servants, bond-men.

So likewise are there in the Families of Christians.

As feruants and bond-men in the Fami-

x Exod. 32.

Num.13.v.31.
32. 33. & 14.
v. 1. 2. 3. & c.
y Heb. 3.17.18.

Mat. 13. 20.
21. 22.
lohn 6. 66. & 12. 42.
2. Pet. 2. 1. 15.
to. 22.
lud. 4.1 1. 12.
15.
7. loh. 8. 35.

I loh.2.19.

Families of Israel, were bought with a price valuable:

So servants and bond-men in the Families of Christians were bought with a price invaluable.

As many servants in the Families of Israel did withstand Moses the Instrument of their delivery out of Egypt carnall, in denying the Law a literall delivered by Moses:

So many feruants in the Families of Christians doe withstand Christ the Instrument of their delinery out of Egypt spirituall, in denying the law b spirituall, delinered by Christ.

Christians in generall may deny the Lord that bought them, and so bring upon themselves swift destruction.

But Christians in e special (as formerly) cannot, by which is manifest that the persons mentioned in the objected places are onely Christians in generall.

2 2 Cor. 3. 3. to

6 Mat 12.32. Ioh.12.42.

d Heb 6.v.4.&e. & 10.v.26.27. 2 Pet.2.v.20.

e Rom. 5. v.5.& 8. v.1.2. 9.15. Mat.24.v.24.

ARGY-

ARGUMENT 2.

Drawne from the said second generall Proposition.

IF men having faith, did afterwards cast off their faith, and thereby bring vpon themselues condemnation; Then men having faith, may afterwards cast off their faith, and be condemned.

But men having faith, did afterward f cast off their faith, and thereby brought vpon themselves condemnation.

Therefore men having faith, may afterwards cast off their faith, and be condemned.

Answer to the faid 2. Argument.

A S Redemption hath divers acceptations, reduced to two, viz. generall; speciall:

So hath the word Faith likewife (and each acceptation vinderflood by its seuerall adjunct) somef i Tim. 5.12. & 1. 5.6.19.

times

fActs 6. v. 3.5.7. Ro. 14. V. I. 22. 23. compared with 1 Cor. 8. 10. 11. g Rom. 4. v. 5. h Rom. 1. v.5. Gal.I. I I. compard with v.23 11 Cor.13. v. 2. k Luke 18. v.8. copared with 2 Thef.1. v.8. Phil.4 to 8. viz.Obediéce with know-Icdge. Elay 1. v. 3. Hof. 4. 1. Ioh. 7. v. 17.& 12. V. 17. 1 Pet. 4. v.17. 1 Rom. 3. V.3. Gal. 2. V. 17.18. m Eph 4.v.4. copared with Heb. 11 v. 1.& 1 Cor. 3. v. 11. n Col.2, v.3. Ich. 1. v. 16.

times for f knowledge, sometimes for g beliefe, sometimes for the h Gospell, sometimes for the gift of working i Miracles; sometimes for the worke of k obedience; somtimes for the 1 promile; and yet but m one faith indeed; and that faith is the promised seede Christ Iesus, (the n treasurie of all graces in nature)God and man, the ground of things hoped for, and euidence of things not seene, as farther appeareth by comparing these following Scriptures: Rom. 3. v. 28. 30. 6.5.1. with Rom. 4. v. 25. Gal. 2. v. 16.17. and Act. 15. v.g. with Heb. 9. v. 14. Gal. 3. v. 2. 25. with Att. 8. v. 35. 3,6. Rom. 1. v. 17. with Gal. 2.v. 20. Gal. 3. v. 23. 25. with Gal. 3. v. 16. 19. Gal. 3. v. 7. with Gal. 3. v. 29. Gal. 3. v. 9. with Gal. 3. v. 29. Indifferently called o Word, P Truth, Way, Life, Law, Faith, foundation, Euidence, all which seue.

o Ioha 1.v.r.2.3. Iam.i.v.18. p Iohn 17.v 17. 2 Thef.i.v.3. q Iohn 14.v.6. r Ro. 8.v.2. Pfal. 17.v 7. to 11.8 119.v.27.29. 30. Pro.6.v.25. f i Cor. 3.v. 11. Heb. 11.v. 1. t Eph. 1.v. 13.14.

rall

rall acceptations are in other places reduced to two generals: viz. Faith of "God Faith of " Christ, Faith in y God, Faith in 2 Christ, Faith of the * Law in letter, Faith of the * Gospel in Spirit, common bFaith, Faith of the 'Elect, d beleefe in God, d beleefe in Christ; from Faith to Faith: All which acceptations are but seueral k measures of one and the same Faith; of which measures, some arel comon to Elect & Reprobate, and may be for saken; others m peculiar to the Elect only, & cannot be forsaken; a measure of which faith, is the promise of obedience, by the letter or voyce of man, to the letter or voyce deliuered by the ministery of man, as appeareth by the Prophets preaching, the fore-runners of Christ according to the flesh, of which Iohn Baptist was the immediate, preparing the way for Christ, by preaching the doctrine of Repentance, and giving knowledge of faluation, whole Baptisme was the Baptisme of E

u Rom. 3. v.3. x Rom. 3 v. 23. Gal. 1. V. 16.20 & 2. V. 22. v 1 Cor.1.v.9. z Gal 3. v.26. * Gal 3. v. 23. a Phil. 1. V. 27. b Tit. 1. V 4. c Tit. I.v. I. d loh. 14. v. I. e Rom. 1, v. 17. Gal 3. v. 23. k Luk. 17. v.5.6. Rom. 12. V.3. Fph 4. v 7. 1 The 3.v. 10. 2 Thef. r. v.3. 11 Cor.13.v.2. Mat 7 V. 22. lohn 6. v. 66. & 12. V. 42. 1 Tim. 1. V.5. V. 19.85.V.12.8C 6. v. 10. 2 Tim. 2. 15. Tit.I. 4, m Tit. I. V. I. copared with Mat. 24 V. 24. 2 Cor. 13. V.S. Eph.6. v. 16. Rom. 5. v.1. 2 Tim. 4. V.7° 1 Joh. 5. 4.

Mat. 3, v. 11.

Mat. 1, v. 4.

Act 16. 15. 33.

& 19. v. 3.4.

g Gen. 17. v. 13.

14 & 34, v. 13.

to 18.

h 1 Pet. 1, v.2.

iHeb.1, v. 1, 14. & 2. V. Z. k 1 Pet. 3. V.19. & 4. v. 6. & 2 Pet. 1. V.21. 1 Heb.1.v.2.& 2. v.3. according to the Prophesie. Gen. 49.V.10. Deut.18.v. i8. m Heb. 2. V. 3. Mat. 28, V. 19. n Mat. 3.v.S. Act. 1. v. 5, 8. & 10.V. 44. & 19. V. 5. 6. 1 Pet. 3. V. 20. o Rom. 2. V. 29. Col. 2; V.11.

of f Repentance, and did admit into the Family of Christ according to the flesh, as Circumcision did into the Family of Abraham, according to the g flesh, with which Baptisme Christ was baptized; which Baptisme, as Circucision, was outward discernable by sense, such was the promise, such was the obedience.

A farther measure of which faith, is the promise of hobedience by the spirit, to the spirit, delivered by Christ in the power of the spirit, by the ministery of i Angells; of k Prophets, beforehe tooke flesh of the Virgin, by his owne ministery, in the dayes of his flesh in his owne person; by the m Apostles afterwards, whose Baptisme was the Baptisme of the Holy n Ghost, and did admit into the Family of Christ according to the Spirit; as Circumcision of the heart did o admit into the Family of Abraham, according to the spirit, with which Baprisme Christ was baptised: which Baptisme, as was Circumcision of the the hart, was inward, discernable by the spirit, such was the promise, such was the obedience. As Circucision of the flesh was a P signe of Circumsion of the heart; so is Baptisme of water, a 9 signe of Baptisme of the holy Ghost. As Circucision of the flesh was accompanied with a promise of obediece raccording to the letter, and f gaue a right to the outward priviledges, during tobediece to the letter: & Circumcilion of the heart accompanied with a promise of obedience according to the spirit, which gaue a right to the priuiledges of the Spirit, u during obedience to the spirit. So Baptisme of water was accompanied with a x promise of obedience according to the letter, and gaue a right to the outward priniledges during y obedience to the letter, & Baptifine of the holy Ghoft, accompanied with a promise of obedience according to the spirit, which gaue a right to the priviledges of the spirit, 2 during obedience to E 2

p Gen. 17. v. 11. Rom. 4. v. 11. copared with Deut. 10. v. 16. q 1 Pet. 3. v. 21.

r Exod. 19. v.8. [Exod. 12. V.44. &c ..

tLeuit 7. v. 21. 25. & 18. v. 29.

u 1 Sam 15. v. 26. & 16. V.14.

x Acts 2. V. 41. &8. v. 13. 20. 2 [.22.

y I Cor. 5. V. 5. 11. 2 Thel 3. V. 14.

z Mat. 12. V.31. Heb. 6. V. 4. 5.6.

Ioh.8.v.34.35. Heb. 10.26.

2 Pct. 2.20.

the spirit, no longer. As vpon breach of faith confirmed by Circumcision of the flesh, was a cutting off of the transgressor from the Family of Abraham, according to the flesh. So vpon breach of faith, confirmed by Baptisme of water, was a cutting off of the transgressor from the Familie of Christ, according to the flesh. As vpon breach of faith, confirmed by Circumcision of the heart, was a cutting off of the transgressor from the Familie of Abraham, according to the spirit: So, vpon breach of Faith confirmed by Baptisme of the holy Ghost, is a cutting off from the Family of Christ, according to the spirit. As persons cut off from the Family of Abrabam, according to the flesh, for transgression of the letter, were vpon their repentance and facrifice according to the letter, * restored, vpon euery transgression which was not death by the law: So, persons eut off from the Family of Christ, according

* Louit. 5. v.6.

cording to the flesh, for transgression of the Law according to the letter, were vpon their repentance according to the letter of the Law & Gospell, and facrifice according to the letter of the Gospell, a restored vpon enery such transgression, which was not death by the letter of the law.

As persons cut off from the Family of Abraham, according to the spirit, were never b restored againe:

So persons cut off from the Familie of Christ, according to the spirit, are neuer crestored agains.

As Christ in person did consist of the nature of God, of the nature of man:

So doth the Church, the body of Christ in its d members, consist of the nature of God, of the nature of man, of obedient ones according to the flesh, of obedient ones according to flesh and spirit:

So doth the Law by which it is gouerned, confift of letter and spi-E 3 rit, a Neh: 5. v. 12. Math.5. v.23. Acts 8 v.22.

2 Cor 2.v.6.7. 8. Gal. 6. v. 1. Rom, 11. v. 23.

Phil.1.v.10.11. 12.Reu.2.v.5. b Gen.4.v.11.to

15. 1 Sam. 15. v.26.& 16. v.

14. c Mat. 12. v. 45. lohn 8. v. 35.

Heb. 6. v. 4. & c. & 10. v. 26.

2 Pet. 2. v. 20.

d 2. Pet. 1. v. 4.

a a garangan da a garangan da rit, as formerly is manifest, transgression of the letter may be, when transgression of the spirit is not, And that discernable by sense: transgression of the spirit may likewise be, when transgression of the letter is not, (viz. discernable by sense) and that discernable by the spirit.

Transgression of the letter onely as formerly, did cut off from the Church, the body of Christ in his members consisting of slesh:

Transgression of the spirit onely, did, as formerly, cut off from the Church the body of Christ in its members, consisting of spirit.

As men generally redeemed, as formerly, may deny the Lord that bought them, and bring vpon themselves swift destruction:

So men having generall or common e faith, may fall from their faith, and be condemned.

But as men specially redeemed, as * formerly, canot deny the Lord that bought them, and bring vpon themselues swift destruction:

Fol.27.

e Tit. 1. v. 4.

1 Tim, 1. v. 5.6.

19. & 4. v. 12.

viz. generall,
or common
measure, as
formerly, fol.

33.
* Fol. 27.

So

So men, as formerly, having h Fol: 33. speciall h faith, cannot afterwards cast off their faith and be condemned.

ARGVMENT. 3.

Drawne from the said second generall Proposition.

IF men having love, did leave Land fall from their loue, and therby became subject to have the meanes of faluation remoued from them;

Then men having lone, may leane and fall from their love, and thereby become subject to have the meanes of faluation remoued from them.

But men hauing loue, did leaue, and i fall from their loue, and thereby became subiest to have the meanes of saluation removed from them.

Therefore men having love, may afterwards leave, and fall from E4

i Reu. 2. 4.5.

their love, and thereby have the meanes of saluation removed from them.

Answer to the said 3. Argument.

A S Faith is generall and speciall, so is loue k generall and speciall: and as men having generall faith may cast it off:

Somen hauing generall loue, may

cast it off.

But as men having speciall faith, cannot cast it off:

So men having I speciall loue can-

ARGUMENT. 4.

Drawne from the said second generall Proposition.

IF persons instiffed, reioyce only in hope of the glory of God, then not in certainty.

But men iustified, reioyce onely in mhope of the glory of God.

Therefore men iuslified, reioyce not in certainty.

k Mat. 24: 12. Mar. 12.30.31. Rom 12.9. 1 Thef. 5. 13. 1 Pet. 1. 22. Reuel 2. 4. I Cor.13.8. 1 loh 3.14 15. to 19. & 4. 12. 16.17.18. As formerly, Fol. 33. 11 Cor. 13.8. 1 loh. 3. 14. 18. & 4.12.16: 17. 18. c Rom. 5.1?

Answere to the said 4. Argument.

A S Redemption, Faith, and Loue, have divers acceptations, each reduced to two generalls.

So hath hope likewise divers acceptations, reduced likewise to two generals: viz. hope "vncertaine, hope ocertaine; which hopes ever tyed to the meanes leading to the

thing hoped for.

As in conditionary promifes of things by man to man, through possibility of performing the condition, is a hope of obtaining the thing promised, though the condition not at the instant performable; but that hope is uncertaine, by reason of the present mability, possibility of death, of change of resolution in the person to whom the things are promised before conditions performed by the person to whom the things so conditionarily are promised.

But after conditions once perfor-

n lob 8.13.14.
& 11.20.
Col. 1.23:
Heb.3.6.
o Tit. 3. 7.
1 Pet.1.3.
Heb. 6. 11.19.
Yet but one
hope indeed.
Eph. 4. 4. as
there is but one
faith, Eph. 4.5.
but divers in
measure as faith

med; if the promiser bee faithfull and powerfull, hope of enioying the things promifed is certaine, though the limited time of enjoying, bee to commence long after: fo by comparison stands the cause betweene God promising, and man hoping to obtaine the thing promised; as appeares in the example of Abraham, to whom the Lord faid, Get thee out of thy Country, and from thy kindred, and from thy fathers house, into a Land which I shall shew thee; And I will make thee a great Nation, and will bleffe thee, and will make thy name great, and thou shalt be a blessing, and I wil bleffe them that bleffe thee, and curse them that curse thee, in thee shall all the Families of the earth be blessed. So Abraham departed as the Lord had spoken vnto him. and yet presently there-after did m distrust the Lords performance

of his promise of protection, as ap-

peareth by his feare, lest comming into Egypt, his Wife being faire, the

Egyp-

1 Gen. 12.

m Gen.12.v.12.

Egyptians would murther him, and preserue his Wife: for auoyding whereof, he counfelled his Wife to Tay The was his Sifter.

And though the Lord appearing vnto Abraham at his coming into the Land, did n promise to his seede to give the Land, and afterwards to give it to him and his feed for ever; yet afterwards would know of the Lord whereby hee should oknow it, notwithstanding the Lord had so often promised it vnto him.

And though the Lord had promised to P make his seede as the dust of the earth in number; yet Abraham afterwards said 9 vnto the Lord, What wilt thou give me, feeing I goe childleffe? So long Abrahams hope of enjoying the land and feede was the first hope, viz. hope vncertaine.

But after the Word of the Lord came vnto Abraham saying, (This) viz the sonne of Eleazer, borne in thine house, shall not be thine heire: but hee that shall come forth out r Gen. 15. v. 4.

n Gen. 12.v.7.

o Gen. 13. V-14. 15. &c. & 15. V.7.8.

p Gen, 13. v.6.

q Gen. 15.v.2.

of

of a surety that thy seed shall bee a stranger in a Land that is not theirs,

and

(Vers. 3.&c.

t Verl.9.&e.

u Vers. 13.

and shall serve them, and they shall afflict them 400. yeares, and also that Nation whom they shall serve will I indge, and afterwards shall they come out with great substance, and thou shalt goe to thy Fathers in peace, thou shalt bee buried in a good old age. in the fourth generation they shall come hither againe, for the iniquities of the Amorites is not yet full.

And after that it came to palle, that when the Sunne went downe and it was darke, behold a smoking Furnace and a burning Lampe, that passed betweene those Pieces.

In that same day the Lord made a Couenant with Abraham, * Say- x Gen. 15. v. 18, ing, Vnto thy seede haue I giuen this Land, from the River of Egypt vnto the great River, the Riuer Euphrates. After which wee neuerread that hee doubted; and therefore from that time his hope was the second hope, viz. y certaine.

y Tit. 2. v. 7. 1 Pet. 1 v.3. Heb. 6.v.11. 19.

Here

Heere is seene the order of Gods proceeding in the worke of regeneration.

First, promises vpon condition,

Gen.12. v.1.104.

After long walking in the condition, Gen. 12.v.4. to Gen. 15.v.6. vpon defire of affurance of the promise: Gen. 15. v.7.

First, horrors of great darknesse:

Gen. 15. v. 12.

Secondly, miraculous fires, manifested, v.17.

Thirdly and lastly, Couenants made: v.18.

The like of lacob: Gen. 28. v. 12.

to 18. & 32. v. 24.

The Connerts: Alis 2. v. 37. &

16. 2.26.

The like in the generall: 10b 33. v. 14. to 33. & 42. 3.4.5.&c. 1er. 30. v.5.6. 10b. 16.v.20: 21.22, &q.

ARGV-

ARGUMENT 5.

Drawne from the said second generall Proposition.

IF God spared not the naturall branches, There is a possibility, hee will not spare a spirituall branch.

But God y spared not the natu-

rall branches.

Therefore there is a possibility, hee will not 2 spare a spirituall branch.

Answere to the said 5. Argument.

S among the naturall branches, some were Israel according to promise in the a election of grace; so likewise are there among the b spiritual branches: neither of which, as formerly, can fall away, and be cut off.

The rest, as formerly, cannot but

fall away.

21,22. lohn 15.6. Z Mat.12.43. to 46. Heb.6.4,5.

y Rom. II.

& 10.26, 27, 28,29,35.38. 2 Pct.1.9. & 2.1.15.18. 20.&c.

a Rom 11.5.7. & 9.27. b Mat.24.24. 1 Pet. 1.5. Their said third generall Propositi-

That a spiritual branch reiested and cut off from the body of Christ, may bee re-elected and grafted in againe; from which are drawne Arguments 2.

ARGUMENT. I.

From the said third generall Proposition.

IE men, having left, and fallen from their love, doe repent, and doe the first workes, they may be restored to their love againe.

But men having lett, and fallen from their loue, may crepent, and

doe the first workes.

Therefore men having left and fallen from their loue, may bee againe restored to their loue.

E Reuel.2.5. Ezec. 18. 27. Rom. 11. 27.

Answer

Answer to the faid 1. Argument .-

Men having left and fallen from their first degree of generall loue, may, as formerly, repent and be restored to their loue againe.

But such as have lest and sallen from their second * degree of gene-

rall loue, as formerly, cannot.

ARGVMENT 2.

Drawne from the said third generall position.

IF the spiritual branch, as the natural branch, being cut off may be grasted in againe;

Then a man rejected may bee

re-elected.

But the spiritual branch, as the natural branch, being cut off, may be d grasted in againe.

Therefore a man reiested may

bere-elected.

Answer

d Ezech. 18. 26. 27. Ro. 11.23. Answer to the said 2. Argument.

e Mat. 12.45. loh. 8.35 Heb 6 4.&c. & 10.26. 2 Pet. 2.20. Though a naturall branch cut off may be gratted in againe: yet a spiritual branch cut off, as formerly, e cannot; neither doe their places so much as colourably proue they can, and therefore in truth need no answer.

Their fourth generall Proposition: viz.

Hat a man elected or reiected knowes not, neither can know till separation of the spirit from the body of sless, whether hee shall inherit Heauen or Hell.

From whence is drawne this one following Argument.

IF a man elected may afterwards be cut off, and a man cut off, afterwards re-elected; then man in this life, before separation of the spirit from the body of shell, doth not not, neither can know whether he shall inherit heaven or hell.

But a man elected may afterwards fall away, bee ocut off, and reiected, and afterwards bee P reelected and grafted in agains.

Therefore man in this life before feparation of the spirit, from the body of slesh, doth not, neither can know, whether hee shall inherit heaven or hell.

Answer to the said Argument.

A SLord, Faith, Loue, Hope, & c. haue divers acceptations, so hath Election; viz. to common graces, to peculiar graces, to 9 office, to r glory, so hath rejection likewise divers acceptations; one elected to office, and some degree of common priviledges, as sormerly, may bee rejected, afterwards reelected.

One elected to glory and speciall priviledges, as formerly, cannot be rejected.

F4

There-

o Ezec, 18. v. 26. loh. 15. v. 6. 2 Pet. 2. v. 1. p Ezec, 18 v. 27. Rom 11. v. 23, 24. Reu, 2. v. 5.

q 1 Sam. 10. 248 Acts 1.16. 17. r Ephel. 1.4. 2 Thel.2.13. Therefore men elected to glory, men reiected from glory, may and doe know in this life, as formerly, whether they shall inherit Heauen or Hell, after this life is ended.

And so much in answer to their source generall Propositions and seuerall Arguments Drawne from

the same.

The Inconveniences and groffe abfurdities, naturally without inforcement is fuing from the said generall Propositions doe follow,

If election to glory, as the oppofers maintaine, be in time, viz vpon the good and euill actions of men done, not before, then it will follow that God the Father is leffe wife then the Potter, who foresees and purposeth the vies of each particular vessell before he formes it.

But God the Father is not lesse wise then the Potter.

Therefore God the Father fore

feet

Rom.g.v. 2'd. 21.

fees and purpofeth the vie of each particular creature before hee formeth it.

If one elected to glory, as the opposers maintaine, may afterwards fall away and bee rejected: then it will follow that God the father is unpowerfull, and so cannot doe what hee would, and vnfaith. full, and so performes not what hee promiseth.

But God hath all power in his hand, and doth what 5 he will, and is alwayes faithfull and doth what

he hpromiseth.

Therefore one elected to glory cannot afterwards fall away and be

reielted.

If all power be in Gods hands, and that he doth what he will, and if God be faithfull and doth what he promiseth;

Then every creature is preserved by him, for & in that vse for which

it was created.

But all power is in Gods hands, Asfol 1. and that he doth what he will, and

g Gen. 18. v.14. Mat 19. V:26. h ler.31.v.3.

As fol. r.

i Ezec. 44.v.23.

Ier. 15.v.19.

Mat. 3. v. 8. & 7. v. 5.16.17.18.

is alwayes faithfull, and performes what he promiseth.

Therefore every creature is preferued by him, for and in that vie,

for which it was created.

If one whom God the Father hath reiested from glory, may, as the opposers maintaine, bee againe re-elested; then it will follow that God is changeable; but God is not changeable:

Therefore one whom God hath once rejected from glory, cannot a-

gaine be re-elected.

If that men in this life doe not, neither can know whether after this life is ended they shall inherite heaven or hell:

Then it will follow, that the holy Ghost gauea false testimony to the vnderstanding of the Pen-men of the holy Scriptures, both of the dostrine concerning all in i generall, and of the Dostrine concerning themselves in particular.

But the holy Ghost gaue a true testimonie to the vinderstanding of

the

1 Cor. 11. 19. 1 Ioh. z. v.29. & 3. V. 10. Gen. 18. v. 19. to. 24. Luk. 1. v. 70. to 76. Joh. 14 16 20. & 16 V. 22. Ela.59. V.21.& 60. v.8.9.&c. & 62. V. 1. to. 11 & 66. v. 19. to k Pfa.116.v.8. I Cor.4. v.4. 2 Cor. 10. V.3. to 6.& 13.v.8. 2 Tim. 4. v. 7. 8.18.

1 Joh. 3. V. 14.

Rom. 8.v. 2.15.

the Pen-men of the holy Scriptures:

Therefore men in this life doe and may know whether after this life is ended, they shall inherst heauen or hell.

If men in this life know not, neither can know whether they shall inherite heaven or hell after this life is ended:

Then it will follow that men in this life doe not neither can attaine to found comfort.

But men in this life doe attaine to found comfort:

Therefore men in this life doe know whether they shall inherit heaven or hell.

If it be a maxime, that such do-Armes as please the flesh be vnfound:

Then it will follow, that all do-Strines against Predestination as before, are vn sound.

But such doctrines as I please the Rom. 8. v.7. flesh, are vnsound:

Therefore all doctrines against

the former Argument.

As letter k, in

Gal.4, v. 29.

& 5.V.17.

Pre-

Predestination, are vnsound.

That the said doctrines against Predestination doe please the sless, is apparant.

First, for that they ascribe to man an absolute power in and of himselfe to worke out his ownesalua-

tion.

Secondly, for that they hide the certaine knowledge of distinction betweene men that shall inherit heaven, and men that shall inherit hell.

Thirdly, the easie receipt, and multitude of receivers of the said doctrines.

Fourthly and lastly, for that they lull men asleepe in carelesse securitie, keeping them from striuing by earnest prayer vnto God for absolute power against sinne and Satan, and from diligent search for knowledge in the Scriptures, whereby to be able to proue their present condition, by comparing the m worke of the spirit in the conscience, with the testimonies of that worke, recorded

Reasons prouing that all dostrines brought against Predefunation, as before, please the flesh.

m Gal. 5. v.24. Ro. 5. v. 1. to 6. & 8. v. 1. &c. 2 Cor. 10. v. 3. to 7. & 13. v. 5. 8. corded in holy n Scripture; for what aduantageth a man to fearch for that which he beleeueth is not possible in this life to be found, viz. knowledge of perpetuall power against sinne and Saran, and consequently of the certaine affurance of his own faluation; contrary wherevnto is truths doctrine, which faith, that the feede of the woman Christ Iesus, shal obruise the serpents head, destroy they workes of Satan, remaine in the Saints, and perpetually preserve them, and that man without that feede is I vnable to do any thing; yea so much as to thinke a good thought, much leffe to worke out his owne saluation.

For that the Saints shall discerne and put * difference betweene the vild and precious, wolves and sheepe, Angels indeed and Angels in shew only.

For that truth is received with much t difficulty, and by a small number, which number by the power of the spirit through Christ

n Rom.15. v.4. Heb.4:y 12. 2 Tim.3. v.15: &e.

o Gen. 3. 15. Gal. 3. 16. 19. prich 2. v8. 2 Cor. 4. V.10. 11. Hcb.2. V.14. q 2 Cor. 13. V.5. Rom 8, v. 9.10. 11,15. Joh. 14. V.17.20. 1 loh.3.v.9. r Mat. 1. V.21. Luk. 2. V. 47. Ioh. 16.V. 22. Icr. 21, v.3. f Phil. 2. v. 13. * Fol. 54. t Rom. 8. v.7. Ioh 8.v. 47.&c. & 7. v. 48. Act. 2. V.13.8.7. V. 5 I.

u Prou, 2. v.3.

x Pfa-116.1.&c, Luk.2.v.29. Ro.8. v. 2, 15. 2 Tim.4. v.7.8.

y 1 Tim.4.v.8. & 6.v.6.7.8.

z Rom. 8. v. 150 * Ioh. 14. 16.17. & 16.v.22.

Rom. 5. v. 1.5. a Pfa. 19.7.&c. & 119.v. 163. 165.167.174.

b 1 loh-3.v.14.

c Phil.4. 4.11.

that strengthneth them, attaine vnto it by " digging after it, as men digge after gold and filuer, and hauing found it, doe acknowledge it, to the glory of God, teltifying the accomplishment of his promises in their owne particular persons; and founding forth his praises in * thankfull tunes for their manifold deliuerances, continually depending on him as a Child on his louing & regardful father, in ful affurance for y supply of all necessaries concerning this life and that to come, walking on the remaining time of their Palgrimage, in the power of that Spirit, which fuffereth them not to feare z againe: in the ioy of that * holy Ghott, which man cannot take away, in that bond of loue to the a lawes and statutes of the Lord, and fellow b brethren, and all the Creatures for the Lords sake, which cannot be broken.

In that happie condition of contentment, in that cestate wherein the Lord hath placed them, not

only

only feeking their owne good, but the good of d others also; yea, even of their very enemies, continually waiting and longing to see the returne of their Lord tro heaven, according to the testimony of the Angel, as he was seene to go into heaven; that so both in s bodies, so well as in h spirits, they may live and raigne with him in glory for ever.

If you consider and acknowledge Gods wisedome and foreknowledge, purposing the end wherefore he made the creatures, before he made them, and the power of God able to preserve the creasures to that end for which hee made them, and the vncomfortablenesse of the opposers doctrine, which the whole course of mans life, and at the very poynt of death leaves man in doubt whether hee shall inherite heaven or hell: you cannot oppose Gods decree of speciall election before time: vocation, sanctification and justification in time; perpetuall preservation of

ta = =

d Phil. 1. 23.&c. e Act. 7. v.60.

f Acts 1. v. 11. g Ro 8. v. 11.23. 1 Cor.15. 23. h Ro. 6. v. 18.22. & 7. v. 22. & 8. 2.10. 1 Cor. 2. v. 16. Gal. 6. v. 1. Hcb. 12. v. 22.23,&c.

1 Tim 4.v. 10. Rom, 8. 29.30.

Kom. 8. 29.30.

hem

them in grace here, in glory hereafter: for sore oppose, is both to deny God the Fathers wisedome, fore-knowledge & power; Christ the Sonnes faithfulnesse, and Christians comfortablenesse, and to dissivade pressing to perfection; for no man pressent further to perfection in this life, then his beliefe perswades him is attainable.

Therefore of the opposite Doctor's and doctrines beware, and forget not I beseech you carefully to remember, according to the Apostles aduice, that in Pauls Epistles are some things hard to bee understood, which they that are vnlearned and vnstable doe, according to their father the Diuels k practice, wrest to their owne de-Aruction: as they doe also the other Scriptures. Christ is a stone of 1 stumbling, and rocke of offence to them that stumble at the word; and if ever any did stumble at the word, none more then the opposers of speciall election before time,

i 2 Pet.3.v.16.

k Mat 4.v.6.

IIIa.8. v.14. Mat.21 v.44. Luk.2. v.34. & 20 v.17.18. Ro.9.v.32.33. time,&c. as formerly appeares.

And if Antichrift must be discovered, according to the mProphesie, as who but Antichrist laboureth to withstand: then from the former collections, it must needs follow, that the spirit maintaining the opposers doctrines, is the spirit of Antichrist.

As Christ is Christ in its n members: euen so Antichrist is Anti-

christ in its o members.

As Christ considered in its members, are P many; as in the members of a naturall body: so Antichrist considered in its members, are likewise q many.

As in the Apostles times, many of the members of Christ, were manifested: so likewise were many of the members of Antichrist; by which they knew it was the last times.

As at that time the day of Christ, viz. in his brightnesse, was not at thand, though its approaching in his members was then seene:

m 3 Thes. 2. v.

2 · 3 ·

n Eph., v. 22, 23 & 4, v. 13, 15. Col. 1, v. 18, & 2, v. 10, 19, 0 2 Thef. 2-9, 10, p 1 Cor. 12, v. 12, to 28.

q 1 Ioh. 2, v.18.

r Acts 11. v 26. 1 Pet.2.v.9.10. 1 Cor.6.v.11. Tit.3.v.6. Eph.2. v.5.6. 1 loh.2.v.18.

t 2 Thef. 2. v. 2.

u2 Thef.2, v.3.

x 2 Cor.3. v. 13.

y 2 Thef 2. v.7.

z Heb.2. v.4. * Acts 2. v.41. & 4. v. 3 2. & 10.v.44. & 13. v 48. So, neither at that time was the man of finne the sonne of perdition, viz. in his darkenesse a renealed, though its approaching in its members was then seene.

As Moses put a x vaile over his face, that the Children of Israel could not stedsastly looke to the end of that which is abolished, and so behold, as in a glasse, the glory of Christ: So Antichrist puts a y vaile over his face, that the world cannot stedsastly looke to the end of that which must be abolished; and so behold, as in a glasse, the iniquity of Antichrist, the man of sinne, the sonne of perdition, whom the Lord snall consume with the spirit of his mouth, and destroy with the brightnesse of his comming.

As Christs comming was after the working of God with powers and signes, and true wonders, in ztruth of righteousnesse in them which *beleeued, and received the love of the truth, that they might

be faued.

So

So Antichrilts comming is after the working of Satan, with power, and signes, and alying wonders, and with all deceivablenetle of vnrighteousnetle in them that perish, which b receive not the love of the b3 Thef 2012.12 truth but beleeue lies, and take pleafure in varighteousnesse that they might be damned.

As turning to Christ takes away the naturall vaile from the heart, 62 Cor.3. V.16. by which with open face, as in a glaile, the glory of the Lord is beheld, & the beholders changed into the same image, fro glory to glory, euen as by the Spirit of the Lord.

So turning from Christ, casts a vaile upon the dheart, by which they are changed into the Image of Anrichrist, growing from iniquity to iniquity, euen as by the spirit of Anrichrift.

As the members of Christ are manifested before Christ the head:

So likewise are the members of Antichrist before Antichrist the head, as formerly.

a 2 Thef. 2.v.9.

d Rom. 1. v. 21.

to, 22. 1 Tim. 1. V. 6. 19. & 4. V. 1.2. 2 Tim. 2. V.17.

18. & 3. V.1, to.

14.

2 Pet.1.5,6,&c.

As by the members of Christ growing from grace to grace, from knowledge to knowledge, from vertue to vertue, is discouered the manner and neerenesse of the comming of Christ their head, in the brightnetse and fulnetse of his glory.

So by the members of Antichrist growing from iniquity to iniquity, is discouered the manner and neernetse of the comming of Antichrift, their head in the fulnelle of the

darkenelle of his iniquity.

That the day of Christ the head his approaching in the brightnetle

and fulnelle of his glory.

And the reuelation of Antichrift the head, the man of sinne, the sonne of serdition, in the fulnesse of the dirkenesse of his impictie

must come, is certaine.

Soit is as certaine, that as there was a receiving of the faith before the ministery of godlinesse was discovered: so there must first come a falling away from the faith, and

rhe

the mystery of iniquity, which keepes that man of sinne from discovery, taken out of the way before that time.

A falling away there was in the Apostles times, in which f many Antichrists were discouered, viz. the members of Antichrist, and yet the Antichrist, viz. the head, was not then discouered: which falling away, was not that falling away mentioned, 2 Thes. 2. v. 3. for that falling away was then to come, the other mentioned, i loh. z. v. 19. past. As every visible body hath a roote from whence the members derive themselves, and from whom they take their nourishment: so hath every spirituall body.

As the spiritual bodies of Christ and Antichrist have the heads or roots, from whence their members are derived, and by whom nourished: so likewise have their particular doctrines, directing their members, speciall heads or rootes, from whence their branches are de-

riued.

f 1 Ioh.2. v.18.

g Col 2. v.3. Luk.11.v.49.

h Luk.24. v. 49. 1 Pet 1. v. 5. 2 Cor. 6. v. 4. 7. as fol. 1.

iler.33.v. 16. 1 Cer.t. v.30. Rom. 8.v.11. rived, and by whom they are directed.

The ghead or roote of the doctrine of Christ, is the wisedome of God the Father, foresceing and purposing, & h power of God the Father in the Son, preserving accor-

ding to his forclight and purpole. The head and roote of the doctrine of Antichrift, is the wisedome and power of man: for, to will the saluation of man, and not saucman, is but the wisedome and power of man; and therefore Antichrist and Antichristians God is man.

One branch deriued from the head or roote of the doctrines of i Christ, is the holineste and righteoussie se of Christin his members.

In eppolition therevato, one branch derived from the head or root of the doctrines of Antichrist, is the holinette and righteousnesse of man, in and of himselfe.

A second branch from the true roote, is a remaining and standing

in

in a righteous estate by & through & Christ.

In opposition, a remaining and standing in a righteous estate of themselves.

A third branch from the true roote, is that he who by regeneration is become the fonne of God, labideth for ener, and to him there is no condemnation.

In opposition, after he is so borne of God and in Christ Iesus, he may writerly fall away and bee condemned.

A fourth branch from the true roote, that it is m impossible for those who were once enlightened and haue tasted of the heauenly gist, and were made partakers of the holy Ghost, and haue tasted of the good word of God, and powers of the world to come, if they fall away, to renew them againe vnto repentance.

In opposition, that such a one fo fallen away, may bee renewed a-gaine vato repentance.

k Gal 2. v. 20. loh 17. V. 11. M.t. 1. V. 21. 2 Tim.4 V.17. 18, 1 Joh. 2: v. 9 Mat. 24. V. 24. Pet.I.v.s. 1 loh. 8. v. 35. & 14.V.16. Ro.8. V.I.2, II.15. I lohi3. v 9. Mat. 24. V.24. I Pet. 1. v. 5. m Heb. 6. v. 5. 6. 8010. V. 26.27. 2 Pet.2. 20. &c Mat.12.31:32.

n Ier. 31. v.3. loh.13. v. 1. & 17. v. 23. 2 Thel.2. v. 16.

o 1 Ioh 4. V17. & 2. V.29. & 3. V.7. Mat 7. 15.16. Heb. 6. 4.5,6. & 10. 26.27. 2 Pet. 2. 15. to 22.2 Tim. 3. 13. Mat. 12. 43.to 46.

A fift branch from the true root, that hee whom God once loues, he n euer loues.

In opposition, that where God hath once loued, hee afterwards hates.

A fixt branch from the true root, that the fonnes of faluation, the fonnes of perdition shall be known at least to o themselves, in this present world.

In opposition, that they shall not be knowne either to themselves or others in this present world; and yet some among them maintaine a power inherent in themselves, to pardon sinnes in others, and to doe workes of supererrogation, to merit for others, besides the full merit for themselves, and that persons so pardoned, so supererrogating, may afterwards lose the benefit of their pardon and workes of supererrogation, and fall away and bee damned: if not this; what is grosse and palpable darknesse.

As the members of Christ and

the

the members of Antichrist were discouered in the Apostles times, so were their branches of dostrine derived from their heads and roots.

And as the mystery of 9 godlinessed did begin to worke in the Apostles times in the members of Christ, towards the discouery of Christian doctrine: so did the root of Christian doctrine: so did the r mystery of iniquity begin then to worke in the members of Antichrist, towards the discouery of Antichrist the head, and the root of Antichristian doctrine.

The first falling away was from the f branches, of Christian doerine, the last from the root, viz. the wisedome and power of God the Father manifested in his Son.

Which last falling away, is now manifested in so generall a manner, as that the soundest hearted, who weighes the different reasons, and layes them to heart, do stagger, and are ready to fall; from which I be-

q 1 Cor.2. V.7. Eph.3. V.9. 1 Tim.3. V. 16. Acts 19. V.6.

r 2 Thef. 2. v.7.

[Act. 15. V.1 5.24 Gal.1.v.6.7.& 2. v.3. 1 Tim. 1.V 5. 6. 19. 2 Tim. 2. V. 17. 18 & a. v.5.8. f 2 Tim. 4. V. 10. 14. Tit.1. V. 16. & 2. V. 16. 1 loh. 2. V. 29. & 3. V.4,5,6. to the end of the Epistle.2. Ich. lud.4. 8. 10.11. r Rom.9.V. 13. to 33.

feech God for Christ Iesus sake to preserve them.

The fall being manifested in its time, according to the Prophesie; in the next place it is to bee expected a remouall of the vaile, viz. the mystery of ini quity, which withholdeth the discouery of the man of sinne the sonne of perdition, and the ap proach of the day of Christs com

ming.

That this vaile which withholdeth the discouery of the man of sinne, the sonne of perdition is mystery, appears by the staggering spirits of such as deeply question the same: that it is a mystery of miquity is manifest, for that it denies the wisedome of the Father in the Sonne fore-feeing and purpoling, and power of the Father in the Sonne, preserving according to his foresight and purpose.

And that this wicked one, after the vaile is taken away, shall not be consumed and destroyed with

any

u 2. The [2, v.6. 7.

any worldly x power, but with the spirit of the Lords mouth, and brightnesse of his comming, is as manifest.

The consideration hereof plainly shewes that God is not onely the God of order in name, but proues himfelfe so in wisedome and power manifested in all his proceeding, who having made the world with all things therin contained, among which, formed man in his owne gimage, whom he made h Lord & Ruler of the Creatures here on earth, seated his habitation in a choice and peculiar i place of the earth, where he made to grow euery tree that was pleafant to light, and good for foode, the Tree of life also in the middest of the garden, and the Tree of knowledge of good and euill, commanding him, laying, of every Tree of the garden thou maist freely eate: but of the Tree of the knowledge of good & euill, thou mayst not care; for in the day that thou eatest thereof x 2 Thef. 2.v 8. For a carnall fword cannot deftroy a spirituall power.

g Gen.1 v. 27. h Gen.1 v. 28. Pía 8. v. 4. to 8. i Gen.2 v. 8. k Rom.11.v. 36. Col.1.v.16. Heb.2.v.10.

1 Gen. 3. v. 6.7.

m Gen. 3. v. 15. &c.

*Gen. 2.v. 17. Eph. 2.v. 1. & 5 v. 14. n Gen 3.v. 15. Ioh 1.v. 1.14. o Mat. 1.v. 20.

thou shalt surely die, all which God the Father did by his Sonne, and k for his Sonne. After which, man being but a creature & left to himselfe, devoid of his Creators protection, to try his owne strength in triall by temptation, was louercome: and thereby together with all his posterity then in him ouertaken with the mandgement, and thereupon thrust out of that peculiar place in which he was seated,& through Cherubins and a flaming sword placed at the East end of the garden, and turning every way, to keepe the way of the Tree of life, was vnable to enter againe, after which fall of man, and expulsion out of that bleffed place in which hee was seared.

The same God and Father, as by his word created the first Adam, and by his Spirit gaue him a life

* cemporall:

So the same God & Father of his n word, by the o holy Ghost, created the second Adam, and gaue him

2

a life r eternall; and so to some in some in share a life of torment.

As the first Adam was of the earth tearthy, his habitation an wearthly Paradise, his warrantable food earthly, his cloathing naked innocency, his pleasures bodily familiarity, the continuance transserver:

So the second Adam is the Lord from * heaven heavenly, his habitation a y heavenly Paradise, his food heavenly, his cloathing robes of * righteousnesses, his pleasures a spiritual samiliarity, the continu-

ance b eternity.

As is the earthy, such are they that are earthy. As is the heavenly, such are they that are heavenly.

As in the earthly Paradife, befides other things, grew two trees, thetaste of the fruit of the one gaue knowledge of good and euill 'temporall; the taste of the other gaue

p 1 Iohn 5.11. Iohn 6.48.

50.54. q Rom.5.5.8.

to II.

1 loh. 4.9.10.

r 1 John 2.25.

Iohn 10.28. & 16.22.

Rom 8.20.

Mat. 25.46.

* Rom.9.13. [Mat.25.46.

Mar.9. 43. 44.

to 49. Hay 66.24.

t Gen.2.7.

1 Cor. 15.45.

x lohn 1. 1. 14.

% 6. v. 3.

8 6. v. 3. 1 Cor. 15. 47.

y Luke 23.43.

Reu.2.7. & 21.22.

z Iohn 6.27. * Reu.7.9.

* Reu.7.9. & 15.6. & 19.8.

a Reu. 19.1.&c.

Heb. 12.12. to 15. b Iohn 16.20. 21.22. Reu. 7. 12. Isay 37. v. 10. c Gen. 2.17. and 3. v. 5.7.22.

life

d Gen.2.9: &: 3.22. e Reu.2.7 f Mat.12.32.

g Mat.25.46.

h Iohn 14.16,17 Rom.5. 5. i Heb.8.4.to 7 & 10.29.

k Ifay.30, 21.
1 Sam.3.
Ieremy 30,5
Acts 9-4
1 Rom.2.14
Acts 16 7
m Heb.1.1,2
n Mat.28.19.20

life deuerlasting: So likewise in the cheauenly Paradise, besides other things, growes two ftrees, the taste of the one giues knowledge of an euerlasting good, of an euerlasting euil; the taste of the other giues possession of an euerlasting life of hoy, of an euerlasting life of itorment.

As from tasting the tree of knowledge of good and enill temporall, and tree of life enerlasting growing in the earthly Paradise transitory, Adam was forbidden by God the Father; fo to taste of the tree of knowledge of an euerlasting good, of an euerlasting euill, of the tree of life euerlasting growing in the heavenly Paradife, Adam and all his posterity, was, are, and shall be inuited by Christ Icsus, either immediatly by k voice or 1 spirit, or mediatly by his " Prophets, himselse in person, or Apostles afterwards, &c.

As to the first Adam, and in him all his posterity, was given a Law

o tem-

o temporall, the transgression wherof accompanied with a temporall death, which death was twofold, first in the P spirit of his mind indifferently called 9 knowledge, r vnderstanding, which transformed him from the Image of God in which hee was made; into the Image of a beaft, through which he lost that wonted louing presence and comfortable familiarity of his Creator, and that u presently vpon his transgression. Secondly, death of body, which transformed him from the image of a man into the image of the x earth, the basest creature, through which he loft the fruition of his fellow creatures, and fo both in body and spirit, both in life and death, became like the bafest creature.

So to the second Adam, and all restored to life by him, is given a V Law eternall; the transgression whereof is accompanied with a death eternall; which likewise is two fold.

First,

o Gen.2.17. Eph.2.1, & 5.14.

p Eph.2.1. & 423. 1-hil. 1.27 Pfal 51.10. · lob-328. lohn 3.6. Rom. 2.29. q Col. 3. 10. Pro.2.6: Dan.1.17 8: 2.21 . r Isay 44.18.19 Luke 24 V.25. f Gen. 1.17 Col.3.10. t Pfel.49.20. u Gen. 3.8,9,10

y Marke 3 5. Mar 3.8.10. 11.12. Luke 13.3.5. Phil 3.18.19. 2 Thef. 1.7. 8.9.

x Gen. 3 19.

z Rom.i.21.to
23.
Eph.4.18,19.
* Mat 12.43.
Heb.6.4.5 6.
& 10.26.
2 Pet.2.1.20.
a Reu.13.11.
12.&c.
b Reu.20.10.
Mat.7.15.
& 24.17.23.24
2 Cor.11.13.

* Isay 66.24.

14.15. 2 Pet.2.1.2.

14.15. to 22.

Jud-4. to 20.

* Reu.20,12, to 15.

o Gen.1.31.

First, in the spirit of the mind, the zvnderstanding, which transformeth him from the *enlightned image of Christ, into the darkned image of Antichrist, the a second beast; which executes the power of the first, and so b ioynes with the false Propher. Through which he doth lose that wonted louing presence, and comfortable familiarity of Christ his Redeemer, and Christians redeemed; and so becomes more base then those which yet remaine under the first death, transformed into the image of the first beast, and so both in body and spirit, life and death, become no letle base then the basest; yea in a short space they become an *abhorring to all fleth.

Secondly, death in the * frame of the outward man, after the generall refurrection.

As all creatures in generall, together with the first Adam, did partake of Gods o goodnesse, in their pure and vndefiled naturals, Adam onely

onely in Pspeciall; first, in respect of image, secondly, in respect of his a habitation.

So all mankind in generall, together with the second Adam, have, doe, or in some fort shall partake of Gods goodnetle, in their pure and vndefiled : spirituals, the elect onely in speciall; first, in respect of their right by promise whereof the holy Ghost doth tassure them: secondly, in respect of the " place wherein they shall ever enjoy them: And so much holy Scripture plainly witnelleth, as the first Adam was made a living x foule, endued with understanding, by which he knew his Creator as a louing Father, and so enjoyed him as a child his naturall Father before his transgression, afterwards as a seuere y Judge, as doth a disobedient child his sometimes louing father: As a childe, though punishment by his father threatned to be inflicted upon his disobedience, knowes not the enill thereof, till vpon his disobedience

p Gen.1.26.27.

q Gen.2.15.16.

r Rom.5. 18. 1 Cor. 15.22. 2 Cor. 5.14: Col 1,20. 1.Tim.2.6. Heb. 2.9. & 6. 4.5. & 10. 26. 2 Pet. 2 20. Mat. 12.43. f Gala.v 9.14. 16.17.18.29. Acts 2 39. 1 Tim.4.10. t John 14-16.17 Rom. 8.2.15. 11 Heb. 12. V.22. to 25. x Gen. 2.7.

y Gen.3.10.15.

* As fol. 73.let. r.f.t.

78

z Gen. 3.5.7. 10.22.

* Gen. 3.5,22.

a Gen 3.7.8.

Gen. 3.22.

10.15.

he feele the smart thereof: So Adam though punishment threamed by God, his louing Father, to be infli-Acd vpon his disobedience z knew not the enill thereof till vpon his disobedience he felt the smart thereof : before hee knew nothing but good, * afterwards good and euill, the enjoying of which good hee a lost, the frustion of which cuili hee found.

he neuer did evill, yet knew euill before ever he felt the fmart thereof, and afterwards did vndergoe the punishment of all the euily of the first transgression, and thereby restored, and will restore the first Adam and all his posterity, as before, both in bodies and * spirits to life againe; * whereof, as before, fome to a life of ioy, others to a life of forrow.

As the first Adam, upon his creation, being left to himselfe deuoid of his Creators protection; was by the deuill, appearing in the

Mape

shape of a beast, drawne into transgression of the Law temporall; So likewife of that number restored by the second Adam, some being left to themselves, devoid of their restorers protection; are by the deuill * immediatly, or by his instruments d mediatly drawne into transgreffion of the Law eternall, and so e together with the false Prophet, vndergoe the curse eternall; others so restored, protected by their restorer, together with their restorer, are f preserved in obedience to the said Law eternall, and with their restorer, enjoy the bleffings eternall.

Hence is seene the glorious order of Gods proceedings, viz. first fore-seeing and purposing what to doe: Secondly, by way of prophesie foreshewing that purpose: Thirdly, according to foresight, purpose, and prophesie, manifesting that foresight and purpose to the sonnes of men: The consideration hereof made the Apostleto cry out, saying, Oh the depth of the riches both of the

c Gen. 3.4,

* 2 Sam. 17.23. Luke 22.3.

d Iohn 13,27.

Mat.12-43,44,
45. & 7.V.15.
& 24.V.24.
1 Cor.11.13
14.15.
2 Pet. 2 V.1.2.
13. to 22.
e Reu.19.20.

& 20. V. 10. &C

f As fol. I.ler. f.

vise-

Rom.11.33.

wiledome and knowledge of God, how unsearchable are his suagements, and his waies past sinding out?

And so much in answer to the seuerall arguments brought against the doctrine of Predestination and free Election of a cerraine number before time; vocation, sanctification, and justification of the same number in time; preservation of them eternally in the same condition both here and hereafter. And condemnation of a certaine number before time, fitted to destruction in time, referuation of them eternally in the same condition both here and hereafter. Which I desire (for that it is a point of the greatest weight, and in the highest degree concernes Gods glory, for it cals his wisedome, power and truth, as formerly, in question) may be with care and conscience considered, and thereupon affented vnto with a publike manifestation, casting off and renouncing all by-respects tending to the satisfying of the flesh,

Rom. 8. 28, 29,30. I Cor. 6.11. flesh, which h humane wisdome teacheth, and wholly ayming at Gods' glory, and soules saluation, the onely and alone respect tending to the spirits satisfaction, which heavenly wisdome teacheth: which that wee may doe, I beseech God for Christ Iesus sake to grant: to whom with the holy Spirit bee ascr bed all the glory.

Let vs I beseech you, labour to reconcile Scriptures of seeming differences, that so thereby wee who differ in judgement and practice may be reconciled both in judgement and practice; otherwise, left by miracle it cannot bee, for all ground their judgement and practice vpon Scripture, and by Scripture labour to maintaine the same; and all Scripture, all confesse, is given by 2 inspiration of God, and came not by the will of man, but holy men of God b spake as they were moued by the holy Ghost; and therefore all Scripture is like credible, by what separation soener

h 1 Cor.1.20,21 & 2. V 4.13. & 3. V. 18.19. reade these Chapters thorow. t 1 Cor.1.31.

a 2 Tim.3.16.

b 2 Pet.2.20.21

cyted,

c 1 Cor.1.12.

h 1 Thef. 5.23.

i 2 Cor.4.16:

k Acts 2.v.13, 14,15, 22, 23.36, 1 Acts 2.37, m Acts 2.41 &c 1 Con.b.11. Rom.s, 1, &c, 1, Acts 15, 24, 2, 2, 2, 3, 3, 4, 5, 7, 19, 11, 11, 14, 5, 19 1 Ioh. 2, 18, 19

eyted, and of like power to perfwade, and till Scriptures reconciled, the different esteeme of the speaker, as a heretofore so now caries away the affection of the hearer, and hence growes the divers kindes of separation. In which labour of reconcilement let us in the shift place consider the distinction of man in particular, according to hitsparts, viz. body, soule, and spirit, life, sense, and reason, or understanding, i inward and outward man.

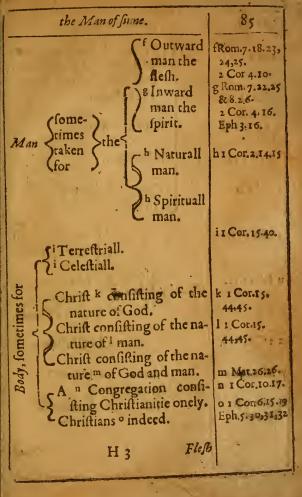
In the second place the distinction of men in generall, according to their seuerall estates and conditions: viz. k blinded Pharises, lenlightned penetenciaries, sanctified, instified m Christians, n Apostate Antichristians; Resembling Israel in Ægypt, Israel in the Wildernesse, strael in Canaan, Israel apostate; gathering and applying to each part of man in particular, to each estate and condition of men in generall its proper Scriptures; and

the Man of sinne.	83
so doing is a *dividing of the word aright. In the third place, the divers ac-	
ceptations of one and the same word: for instance (God.)	
God {fometimes the } the P Sonne, person of Man.	o Iohn 8,42. & 14.1. 1 Tim.5,21. & 6.13. p liay 9.6. q Exod.7.1;
Creation for taken for the per- tor fon of the per- tor fon of the forman.	r Gen 1.26. f Col. 15,16.
tor Clon of J C Man.	t 1 Cor,4.15.
Lord Staken for the per-	u Mat. 22.44. Marke 12.36.
fon of S & Man.	x ludg.19.26.

Hz

Father

Man



86	The vnmasking of	
p Mat.27.28.		The natural body of Christ, which was from the earth, consisting of the slesh of the P Virgin.
q 1 Cor.1.25	Fleste, sometimes for	Naturall 9 man.
z Eph. 2.30.	efb,	Christians.
f Gal.3.3.	FI	Carnall ordinances of pu-
c Iohn2. 19,20.		The ' material Temple.
u Iohn 2.21.	Tem	The particular Temple of Christs body.
x 1 Cor. 6.19.		Lx Christians.
y lehn 16.21.	Ries	Some- 3 Naturall.
2 Iokn 3.3. Icc.30.6,	Lini	for Spirituall.

Bread

H4

Death,

1 Gen. 2.17. Eph. 2.1. & 5.14. m 2 Sam. 1.4.

n Iud.12. Reu.20.14.

o Mat. 10.39. Iob 10.1.

p Eph. 5.14.

q lohn 6.47.51

Death, forme-times viz. Spiritual, m Natu-poral, Sometimes a eternall.

Life, fometimes
temporal. viz.
P Spirituall.

Sometimes 9 eternall.

F Mat.13 to 17. Act.26.18. Hearing,
Seeing,
and all
other
fenses,

Seeing,
fraken for
for
Spirituall.

Consci-

Conscience (an euill se Conscience.
fometimes taa good "Conscience.
ken for, Cascared Conscience.

Predestina- Sy Saluation.
tion some- 2 Condemnation.

fometimes to 2 Glory.

Tocation of Office and common Priviledges.
'times to Colory.

Institute on fome- de Christianity, times in L'Hypocrisse.

Santtification on former of times for a Meate,

Santtification of the Priviledges.

Priviledges.

Priviledges.

Priviledges.

Marte,

Righte-

(Heb. 10.22.

t 1 Cor.8, 1, 12

n 1 Pet.3.16 x 1 Tim.4.1.2.

y Rom. 8.29,29 z 1 Pet. 2 8. 2 Pct. 2.12.

lud.4.

* 1 Sam. 10, 24. Acts 1. 16,17. 2 Eph. 1. 4.

b Acts 1,16,17.

2 Thef. 2.13.

e Acts 2.39.41.

d Mat. 1.19. e Rom. 4.25. f Prou. 30.12. Iohn 32.1.

g Exod.39.44.

h 1 Cor. 6.1 f. i 1 Tim 4.3,4,5. k Ezek.18.26. Mat. 5,20. 1 1 Pet. 4.18. m Reu, 13 8. Gen.17.5. Acts 9.15. n Mat. 27. 50. Gen,21.1.13.18 Act. 9.18, 19, 20 0 &c. As fol, 32.

u Tit. 1.4.

x Tit.I.T.

y As fol. 40. letter k.l. z lob 3.13.14. & II.20. Col. 1.23. Heb.3.6. 2 Tit. 3.7. 1 Pet. 1.3. Heb.6.11.19. Righteousnes C' Pharisaicall, sometimes . taken for Cl Christian.

Time, sometime o m God, it is taken as inaccount with (n Man.

To Knowledge, p Belecfe, Faith, sometimes taken for 9 Gospell.

r The gift of working Miracles.

The worke of Obedience,

2 The Promise.

" Common faith, viz. generall.

x Speciall faith, viz. the faith of the Elect.

Loue, som- Cr Genwall. times ta-z ken for Speciall.

Hope, som- [Vncertaine. times taken for 62 Certaine.

Ren

Redemption, sometimes taken for

RedemptiSpirituall,
Speciall,

Circumcifion, fomtimes it is taken for Circumcifion of the

Baptisme, somtimes taken for Sh The holy Baptisme of Ghost.

Each acceptation mostly vaderstood by its adjuncts.

As one word hath divers acceptations; so one acceptation is see forth by divers words.

As fol. 28.

fGen, 17.11:to 15. gler. 9.26. Acts 7.51. Rom. 2.29.

h As fol. 33,34.

For instance.

God 7 from his Na-Christ sometimes taken for tures. Sonne of from his De-God, Sonneof scent. man. Redeemer, Saujour, from his Of-Mediator, fice. Intercelfor, Shepheard,

a loh. 10:17.

b loh. 15. 1.

c I Cer. 10:4.

d Ioh. 1. 29. Reu. 5.6.

e Reu. 5.5.

floh 14. 6.

a a Doore.

a b Vine.

a cRocke.

a d Lambe.

a e Lyon.

af Way, Truth, Life. And those from his properties.

As

As whole man consists of an inward and outward man, of inward and outward qualities of discerning; and the whole & Law of an inward and outward, of a naturall and spiritual interpretation; of an inward and outward transgression: So doe all other Scriptures.

And so much the very letter of Scripture comparing 1 spirituall with spirituall, naturall with naturall, one m place with another (as

formerly) plainly teacheth.

The carelelle conideration wherof, is the subordinate cause of so many divisions in judgement, separations in practice: as not onely in the former particulars doth appeare; but also in these following, and many others.

For instance, touching the supposed real presence in the Lords "Supper; as Christ, speaking of the new birth, "Nichodemus conceived Christ meant a "natural birth, as appeareth by his answere, saying; How can a man bee borne againe when

k Exod. 31.v.18.
Deut. 31.9.to
14 & 11.18.19
20. Rom. 7. 8.
9.14. & 8.2. to
15. Mat. 15.
18. 19. 2 Cor.
3-6. 1 Cor.2.14
Luk. 24.45
11 Cor. 2.13.
m Mat. 13.12.
with Luk. 8.18.

n Mat. 26. 26. 27

o loh.3. v.3.

p loh.2.19120-

when he is old? can hee enter the second time into his Mothers wombe, and be borne againe? And Christ speaking of the Temple of his? body, saying; I will destroy this Temple, and in three dayes I will raise it vp: the Iewes beleeued he meant the Temple of Ierusalem, as appeareth by their answer, saying; Forty and sixe yeares was this Temple in building, and wilt thou reare it vp in three dayes?

And Christ speaking of the spirituall bread which came downe from Heauen, saying; the Bread of God is he which commeth downe from 9 Heauen, and giueth life vnto the world: I am that bread of life; the Bread which I giue is my stess; the Iewes beleeued hee meant his naturall body, which was flesh of the Virgin; that came downe from Heauen, as appeareth by their answer, saying; Is not this Iesus; the sonne of sofeph, whose mother weeknow, how is it then that hee saith I came downe from Heauen? The

Bread

g Ioh.6.33.52.

r Joh, 6. 42.51.

Bread which I shal give is my slesh, which I will give for the life of the world: the Iewes beleeved hee meant a naturall eating, as appeareth by their answer, saying; How can this man give ys his flesh to eate ?

So Christ at his last Supper, speaking of his spirituall Bodie, spiritually understood, saying; This is my Body which is f given for [Mat. 26, 26. you; This Cup is the new Testament in my blood, which is shed for you: many doe beleeue he intended that Body of Bread and Wine, after the wordes of bleffing deliuered, is really, substantially discernable to all the eaters of that Bread so blessed, the very body of Christ which was hanged, & bloud which was shed vpon the Crosse; who, by so saying, deny the very words of Christ before his passion, faying; This is my Body which is giuen for you; This is my Blood which is shed for you: at which time his naturall Body was not gi-

Christ speaking of the leauen of false doctrine. the Apostles vnderstood of the leauen of bread: Mat, 16.

t Rom. 4. v.17.

u Gen.17.v. 5.

7.

x Ioh.6.v.27.

y Mat. 15. v. 17.

uen, nor naturall blood shed, otherwife then Abraham (according to Gods manner of speaking, t calling those things that be not as though they were) was a Father of many Nations, before Abraham or his feede were, or " had a Nation: and if in that sense they take Christs words, it makes nothing for them; for in that sense Christ must call that his Body which was not his Body; and so enery way it makes against them, and cuery way they manifest themselves Antichristian; witnesse likewise these following reasons drawne from holy Scripture.

The meate which Christ meant, * endured to euerlasting life.

But that Body broken, and Blood shed in the Supper endureth not to everlasting life; for it goeth into the belly, and is cast out into the y draught:

Therefore that Body broken, and blood shed in the Supper, is not that meat which Christ meant.

The

The Bread which Christ meant is the Bread of God, which came downe from y Heauen:

But the Bread in the Lords Sup-

per came from the earth:

Therfore the Bread in the Lords Supper is not the Bread which Christ meant.

The Bread which Christ meanerh, z giueth life vnto the world:

But the Bread in the Lords Supper, giveth not life vnto the world; for that Bread is a Creature, and the Creature cannot give life, it is the Creator onely that giveth life:

Therefore that Bread and Body in the Lords Supper, is not that Bread and Body which Christ meant.

He who eateth that Body which Christ meant, shall not dye, but a line for ener:

But many who eate of the Bread in the Lords Supper, do die; whereof some eternally, others temporally: y Ioh.6.v.33.

2 loh.6.v.33.

2 Iohn 6.v. 50.

There-

Therefore the Bread in the Lords Supper, is not that body which Christ meant.

They who cate that flesh, and drinke that bloud, doe b dwell in Christ and Christ in them:

Christ and Christ in them

But * some, who eate that body, and drinke that Blood in the Lords Supper, neither dwell in Christ, nor he in them:

Therefore that Body and Blood in the Lords Supper, is not that Body and Blood which Christ meant.

Hee who eateth that Bread, that Body which Christ meant, shall live by Christ, as Christ cliveth by the Father:

But * some eate the Bread, the Body in the Lords Supper, which live not by Christ, as Christ liveth by the Father:

Therefore the Bread, the Body in the Lords Supper, is not that Bread that Body which Christ meant.

They who extethe Body which Christ

b lehn 6.v. 51.

* Math. 26.25, 26. Mar. 14. 15. Luk. 22. 14. to 21. 1Co. 11.29.30

c John 6.v. 57.

* Math. 26.25, 26.

Christ meant doe d discerne the d John 14.17.19 Lords body:

But some who eate the Bread in the Lords Supper, do not e discerne

the Lords Body:

Therefore that Body in the Lords Supper, is not that Body the I ord meant.

If to eate that Body of bleffed Bread in the Lords Supper, be an eating of Christs Body; then all that eate that body must bee eternally faued:

But all that featethat Body of bleffed Bread, shall not be eternally faued:

Therefore to eatethar Body of blessed Bread in the Lords Supper, is not to eate that Body which Christ meant.

If that Body in the Lords Supper, were Christs Body which did fuffer and hang on the Croffe: then that Body in the Lords Supper, had not onely the shape of a man; but also was a man:

But that Bodie of bleffed Bread Ĭ 2

in

e 1 Cor.11.v. - 29.

f Mat. 26. V. 24. Mar. 14. v. 18. Joh. 13.v. 26. Luk. 22. V-32in the Lords Supper, had northe shape of a man, neither was a man.

Therfore that Body in the Lords Supper, was not that Body which did suffer and hang on the Crosse.

If that Body in the Lords Supper beethat Body of Christ which suffered and hanged on the Crosse; then Christ crucified himselse:

But Christ crucified not himselfe,

but was crucified:

Therfore that Body in the Lords Supper, was not that Body which suffered and hanged on the Crosse.

If that Body in the Lords Supper, beethat Body which suffered and hanged on the Crosse, then the Apostles by breaking that Body and shedding that blood in the Lords Supper, did crucifie Christagaine:

But the Apostles did not cruci-

fie Christ againe:

Therefore that Body in the Lords Supper, is not that Body which which suffered and hanged on the CrosTe.

The Lords Supper is commanded to bee observed in g remembrance of his Body broken and Bloud shed, and bremembrance imports things palt:

But if that Body in the Lords Supper, be that Body which suffered & hanged on the Croffe; then

that body is present:

Therfore the Body in the Lords Supper, is not that Body which Christ meant.

If that Body in the Lords Supper, beethat Body which suffered and hanged on the Crosse; then that Body comes often againe:

But that Body comes not i often

againe':

Therefore that Body in the Lords Supper, is not that Body which suffered and hanged on the Croffe.

If that Body in the Lords Supper bee that Body which suffered and hanged on the Crosse; then that

body

g I Cor. II.v. 24,25. h Exod. 12. v.

26,27.

i Acts 3.v.21.

k Ads1.v.9.10

body in the Lords Supper doth k descend as it did ascend.

But that body in the Lords Supper doth not descend, as that body which suffered and hanged on the Crosse: Therfore that body in the Lords supper, is not that body that suffered and hanged on the Crosse.

As the hallowed Elements of Bread and Wine, in the Lords Supper, were eaten with the naturall carnall sense called tasting:

So the body which Christ meant, was and is eaten with the spirituall

sense called tasting.

As Christs meat spirituall was to doe the will r of his Father which sent him; So is Christians likewise. As to doe the will of God is Christ and Christians meate: So to beleeue the wilof God is Christians spirituall eating, t and such only who so know & doe are blessed, out of whose bellies shall flowe rivers of living * waters.

As from misunderstanding the word eating, tasting, have bin and are diners separations both in

iudge-

r Iohn 4. v. 34. and 6. v. 27. f Pfal. 19.

t John 6.v. 29, 30.35.37.40, 44.45.47.64, 65.

u Mat.7.V. 24.
25. and 12.
v.50. Ioh.13.
v.17.

* Iohn 7.v.38.

iudgement and practice.

So likewise from misunderstanding the word feeing, hearing, touching, &c. which are two fold, viz. spirituall, naturall, as tasting is: haue beene and are diuers separations both in judgement and pra-Rice: Some judging according to the eye of the outward naturall man onely; which judgement holy Scripture calleth vnrighteous ziudgement: Some iudging according to the care of the outward naturall man, to whom Christ said, ye haue cares and y heare not: Some judging the touching with the hand according to the fense of the outward naturall man, did z defile z Math. 15.v.x. the man, which Christ affirmed did not defile the man. For that by misunderstanding the word hearing, recorded in holy Scripture, many of you have and doe separate from vs ; I have desired in expressing my vnderstanding in that particular, to be more large then in the other, and for more plaine

x Iohn 7. V.24 SI.

y Mat, 13. v. 13.

2.18.

plain & familiar answering of your collection, drawne from the said Scriptures I lay downe your collection in forme of argument thus.

Such Prophets or Ministers as speake lies, and liue inordinately are not to be a hearkened vnto.

But the Preachers established in the Church of England, in their publike Ministery, speakelies, and in conversation walke inordinately. Therefore the Preachers established in the Church of England, are not to be hearkened vnto.

For answere whereunto, as is it were so as you (because generally therefore dangerously) object, vp-pon the word hearing, I distinguish thus: As man in whole consists of an inward and outward man, so mans discerning in * whole is inward and outward: inward according to the inward man; outward according to the inward man; outward according to the outward man: each man discerning sine maner of wayes, viz. by seeing, hearing, tasting, touching, smelling.

a Ieri.23. v.16.

* Math.is. 1. 2.18. Ilay 52.11. 2 Cor.6.17. Col. 2. 21. Gen.8.20. Lenit,6.15. By hearing in your quoted Scriptures I understand a hearing with the eare of the inner man, not with the eare of the outward man, which I proue thus. The Apostle directed by the holy Ghost, immediately after he had admonsshed the Thessalonians, not to quench the spirit, nor despise prophecying, bid them b proue all things; hold-fast that which is good.

But we cannot proue all things, hold-fast that is good, vnlesse we heare things both good and bad. Therefore hearing in your quoted Scriptures, is meant hearing with

the care of the inward man,

The Apostle in a time; when many false spirits were gone out into the world, commanded his Disciples not to beleeue euery spirit, but to try the spirits whether they were of God.

But we cannot try the different spirits, vnlesse we heare them.

Therefore by hearing in your quoted Scriptures, is meant hea-

ring

b 1.Thef.s.v.

c I John 4.v. i.

Note Icr. 6,16.

ring with the care of the inward

VV hatsoeuer the Scribes and Pharises, though wicked men in life, corrupt in Doctrine, sitting in Moses seat, bid the multitude and Disciples obserue, that they must by command d of Christ obserue and doe.

d Math. 23.v.1.

But the multitude and Disciples could not observe, and doe what the Scribes and Pharises bid them unlesse they heard them: Therfore by hearing in your quoted Scriptures is meant a hearing with the care of the inward man.

By Moses seate in that place is meant the truth of God which Moses taught, which every man is bound to observe and doe. If otherwise you take it, then we must dishonour our Parents, receive for Doctrines the precepts of men as they taught them.

e Math.15.v.5.

But according to Christ and the Apostles counsell, we must take heede whom we heare, viz. what

f 1 Iohn 4.v.i. Mat.7.v.15. and 22.v. 24

spirits,

spirits, for there be false spirits. What we heare, viz. what Doctrines, for there be false Doctrines. How we heare, viz. with what carefulnesse in examining what we heare, for many by receiving with beleefe false Doctrines without triall by examination, have beene deceived.

Therefore Christ bids his Disciples, beware of the leauen, viz. the Doctrine of the Pharifes and

Sadduces.

By the conscionable consideration hereof is understood in holy Scripture, a two fold acceptation of the word hearing; the one naturall, carnall, viz. with the eare of the outward man, the mortall body.

The other spirituall, viz. with the eare of the inward man the im-

mortall spirit.

The first is simple hearing with the eare of the outward man, as Christ heard the diuell, which as formerly is proued, hurts not.

The second is a 1 hearing accompanied

g Mar.4.v.24. Mar.15.v.5. 6.9.and 16. v.11.12.

h Acts 17.v.10: 11.12.

i Math. 16.v.

k Math.4.
1 Icr.23. v. 16.
32.2 Tim.3.
v.5. 6.2 Pet.
2.v.1,2.to

companied with beleeuing, and practifing what is heard, which if it be falle Doctrine (as formerly) is

exceeding dangerous.

That hearing is twofold, witness not onely the former collections! but also those speaches of Christ to fome, saying. Why doe yee not understand my speach, euen because you cannot m heare my word. He that is of God heareth Gods word: yee therefore heare nthem not, because yee are not of God, my sheepe o know my voice, they know not the voice of strangers; if thy brother heare * thee; thou hast gained thy brother.

If he will not hearethee, take with thee one or two more, if he neglect to heare them, tell the Church, &c. Those to whom Christ so spake did heare him with the eare of the outward man, and yet Christ saith expressy they heard himnor, viz. with the care of the

inner man.

Take heede and beware that Vou

m Iohn 8, V.43.

n Iohn 5.v. 47. o loh. 10. V. 4.5

* Math. 18. v. 15.

you i iudge nothing before the P 1 Cor.4.v.5 time, for as among these that call themselves Christians, are some which have not so much as leaves of religion, viz. outward obedience, as the professed libertines of the world; some which have leaves only, as 9 sheepes clothing, r outward righteousnesse, consisting in long f prayers : Tything of Mint and Annis, and Cummin; giving u of almes, fasting, offering * multitudes of Sacrifices, and the like; yet bring forth bad fruit in the daies of their ignorance, before they come to the knowledge of the truth.

Others have leaues, weare this clothing 3. and bring forth good * fruit, some thirty, some fixty, and

some an hundred fold.

Among the first and second fort of those that have leaves, weare sheepes clothing; some doe weare them for custome sake, because it is the vse of the Countrie, some for esteeme sake to be accompted good subjects, because the law comands

Mat.7. v. 15. Mat. 5. V. 20. 1 Mat. 6. v. s. t Luk. 18. v.10. 11.18. u Mat.6. v. I. * Ifav 1.v.10. to 16.8 58.1. to 6. Ga. 1.14 Rom, 2. V.13:10 23. Acts 26.7.9. 10.11.8c. 1.Tim.:.v.13 Acts 2. V. 23. and 16. V.24: x Mat. 13.v.8.

y John 12.6. Mac, 23, 14. &cc. 2. Pet. 2.

z Rom.9.31. and 10.2. * Toh. 14.15. 21.1 Joh.5. 2.3.2 loh.6. Luke 1.74.75 Rom. 8.15. 2 Tim.1.7. I Joh.4.17. * Mat. 7. V. 15.

and 24. V.24.

and 26, v. 25.

and 22 V 14 15.2 Tim. 3.

2 Cor. 1 1. V.

13.14.15.

I.to 4.

to 22.

* Iude 13.

V.5.6.7.8.

1 Cor- 13. V. 2 Pct. 2. V. I.

mands ir, some for worldly y profits fake; as meate, drinke, and clothing, preferment to Offices, honors, aduantages, vpontruft, prorection from bodily dangers, power to ouercome such as they hate. and other the like: from such as have those leaves, weare those clothings of conscience sake, who are endued with the preferments of this world, some to merit heaven, to escape hell, haue those leaues, weare this clothing onely for the faluation of their of foules, forme to testifie their * loue and thankfulneile, by yeelding obedience vnto him, who hath deliuered them from the hands of their enemies. and enabled them to serue him without * feare, in holinesse and righteousnelle : others have and weare them to couer and hide their deuillish and woluish betraying practices, and they are Apostates, which have forfaken the Faith, men twice dead, as Inde speaketh, whose chiefe practice is to drawe others

others into the same Apostacie, therein imitating their father the deuill that old serpent, who falling into Apostacie himselfe, procured by his subtilty the fall of our first a parents: And as his Doctrine was a Doctrine of liberty to the flesh, such are the b Doctrines of all Apostates. Such were they in the Prophets times, who called the lawes a churthen; making men d stumble at the law, who changed times and lawes, who f fuppresse the authoritie and testimony of the witnesses of God. Such were those in the Apostles times, called the g Synagogue of the libertines: Such are those in our times called Familists; who denie all civill h gouernment, and all dignities and degrees of 1 order, in Church and Common-weale Christian, all bodily k worship, and that through ignorant mistaking, or wilfull wresting the Scriptures at letters, h. i. k. directed vnto by the marginal quotations contained

a Gen.3. b 2 Tim.3.v.6. 2 Pet. 2.v.18.

c Ier.23.33,&c. d Mal.2.8.

e Dan.7.25. f Reu.11.7.8. g Act.6.9.

Mat.12.5.7.
Iohn 5.8.9.
10.2nd 8.3.
11.2nd 9.15.
16.Act.15.
10.Rom.4.5.
15.2nd 7.6.
21.2.& 9
4.30.31.32.
22.
23.21.32.
24.30.31.32.

11.14.15. Gal.3.16.& 3.10.21, 24. 25.and 4.9.

9.2 Cor. 3.7.

10. 21. and 5.1.4.13.

Eph. 3.15. Col. 2.16. Tit. 3.9. Heb.

Mac.20.25. and 23. 8. Luk. 22. 25.

k Iohn 4.24. Rom. 8, 26.

in

I Mat. v. 17. 18. 19 and 7.12. and 19.13. Luk. 16.37. Rom.3.31. and 7.7.to 12.16 22. 23. 25. and 87. I. Cor. 14 34 Gal, 5. 18. 1.Tim. 1.8.9. 10. Heb 8.10 and 10,16.26 2.Pet. 2. 29 1. loh. 2 4. m Mat. 17. 24 26.27. and 23 1.2. Act. 6 1.2.3. &c.and 12.1. -2.3.and 14. 23.and 15. 1.to 8.1 Cor.

5.1 to 6.8cc.

1. Tim. 1.1.2.

and 12,28. 29. Col.4.17. in this leate: forgetting or wilfully neglecting Christ and the Apostles counsels and directions, both concerning 1 government, m dignity, and bodily " worship, together

with the spirituall.

All forts must be heard with the cares of the outward man, to well good as bad, as before is proued; though all are not sent to convert soules, and that because all are fent of God in mercy to the Elect, or Judgment to the reprobate, therefore to reject the hearing of any with the outward care, that haue lawfull calling, is a transgrefsion ; and therefore exceeding perillous, as before is plainly proued: Returne therefore I besecch you my beloued Brothers and Sifters, according to Creation and Countries accompt, and let vs no longer

2: &c. and 3. 1.2.8. and 5.1. 16.19. Tit. 1:4. Heb. 13.17.24. Reu. 2.1.2.1 Tim. 2. 1.1 Pet.2.13.14.2 Pet.2.10, lud 8 9. 10. n Mat.3.15. &5. 16.and 10.32.33.and 15.3.to 10.and 23.1.2.3. and 2 .34 35 &c. and 28.19.20.1 Co.11.4 5 &c.lam.2. 13.14.&c.Plal.40 6.to 11. Rom. 12, Phil 4 18. Heb. 13-15.16.1 Cor. 6-20 Deut 34 v 10. 1 Kin. 15.16. Ilay 1. ludg. 9.33. Ilay 19 14.1. Kin. 22.20 21.22 23-

forsake the assembling of our selves together, but let vs according to the Apostles counsell, 8 consider one another, to prouoke vnto loue and good workes, and let vs no longer Caine-like be so farre from being one anothers keepers, as to become one anothers h murcherers, but let vs affemble our selues together, that so we may have opportunity to i watch one ouer an- i Leui,19. v.17 ther, and to rebuke one another, not suffering sinne one vpon another without rebuke, and that we cannot doe without accompanying one another, which if we de not, we are haters one of another; and he that hateth his brother is a k murtherer, and no murtherer hath eternall life abiding in him: What though now in outward appearance, yee are become holier then we, there was a time when in appearance you were as Weare ; and amongst vs you beganne your change, were you then changed by miracle without the Ministry of the

g Heb. 10. V. 23, .24.25.

h Gen.4.v.9.

k 1 loh;3.v,150

1 Mat.7. V.12.

m If2.65.v.5. Luk.18.v.10. to 14.lud. 18.19.

> n Mat. 11. v.19. and 9. v.11. Mar. 2. v.16.

the word, and so hold it no matter of necessity to inioy the Ministry of the word: or were you changed by the Ministry of the word, either publike or private, and so hold the Ministry of the word, a matter of necessine? How then can yee denie to doe to vs what God hath made others to doe to you, and so hudwickely runne into the breach of that great I law.commanding vs to doc as we would be done vnto? Is it because you are more holy then we, beware of judging, and know that fuch separating, is a marke of an meuill man, that walketh after his owne thoughts, without the direction of the word and spirit of God, recorded in holy Scripture? Christ disdained not to be in the assemblies of hypocrits, and can you be Disciples of Christ, that walke otherwise? Let God and his word be judge.

Christ for accompanying Publicans and sinners, was by the Scribes and Pharifes, accompted a

man

man gluttonous, a Wine bibber, a friend to Publicans and sinners: and are not Christians in our times for so walking, euen so accompted of by the Pharises in our time? Let God his word, and understanding Christians likewise judge. Beware therefore, beware of the leauen of the Pharises, lest you as o others haue beene; be deceived by them. And know for certaine that this kind of separating from the perfons of men, as being more holier, is a point of Satans greatest policie, for by that, meanes those holier ones are barred from all opportunities, of being instruments either by P counsell, or godly a conversation to conuert their in accompt vnholy brethren, or to be converted by them so accompted, which happily in power may be more holy then you. Doe but looke backe and view those Congregations, where you had your religious beginnings: I meane you who are not wilfully blind, and consider with me, prepared K 2

Ifay 30.V.5. to 10,1er.23. V.27.30.32. Ezc.13.V.6. 10.to 23. Mat.23.V.15. 2 Tim 3 V.6. 7.2 Pct.2.V.

1.2.3.13.14. 18.20. p Luk.22.V.32

Pfal 51.v.10 13.2 Cor.1. v.3.4.5.

q 1 Pet. 3.v. 1.2. and 2.v. 12. Phil. 2.v. 15. 16. Mate 15.v. 16.

pared by prayer, calling off all prejudicate opinions and selte conceitednesse; how much good, if you be religious indeed, your counsels, and conversations, might have done if therein you had continued; and by how much the more good by fo continuing, fo much the more harme haue you done by fe-

parating.

Confider likewise with me (prepared as formerly) who in a kind haue separated, the different power of Gods spirit vpon your soules and consciences, crucifying the flesh with the affections and lusts, by comparing the preaching among you separated, with the preachings among vs, where you had your religious beginnings, if you had any such beginnings, and then I doubt not but you will as my selfe and many others have done, returne to those Congregations where you had fuch beginnings; and therein with vs waite on. God for supply of such a mea-

furc

fure of increase of grace, as against that great day of the Lords appearing, may affure you of intoying an eternall rest of blessednesse.

Know for certaine, that the Kingdome of God is not in word, but in power, not in forme of godlinefle, for that I may be where the power is wanting: and where the power is wanting, Christ is wanting: and where Christ is wanting. the Church of Christ hath not any being: of his Church he is the head, of his Kingdome he is the King; and that his Kingdome is righteousnesse, peace, and soy in the holy Ghost. Those of his Church, of his Kingdome, are t faithfull, whose number are few, viz. one Noah in a whole world, one Lot in the Cities of Sodom and Gomorrab; afterwards one of a Citie, two of a Tribe, in the Prophets time? to his know- 1 Kings 19.14. ledge not any besides himselfe.

In Christs time searce faith to be found vpon the earth. No maruell then though Christ said that the

King-

r. 1 Cor.4.v.

2 Tim. 3. v.5. Rom 14.17. Luk.17.20. 21.

r Mat. 24. V. 45 46, and 25. V.23.

u Luk. 17. v. 20.

* Rom. 10. v.6. to II.

x Acts 24 v.25 Mat-7. V. 22. Y Tam. 2. V. 19. Luk.4. V.41. Acts 19.v.15.

Z Rom. 10. v. 9. IO.

a Mat.7 V 24. Iam. 1. v.22. Romaz, v. 13 Job. 7. V. 17. 1. d 12 v 17

1 3L.T2 V.50"

Kingdome of heaven commeth not " with outward observation. Therefore let vs no longer say in our hearts. * Who shall ascend into heaven, that is to say, to bring Christ downe from aboue? or who shall descend into the depth, to bring Christ againe from the dead? But according to the rightcouines of faith; let vs fay the word is nigh vs, even in our mouths, and in our hearts, that if we confesse with our mouths the Lord Iesus; and shall beleeue in our hearts, that God hath raised him from the dead, we shalbe saucd; not a beleefe onely with the heart, trembling, and confessing with the mouth; crying, Lord, Lord; thou art lefus the Sonne of the living God, 28 doe wicked men and y deuils: but a beleefe with the heart vnto righteonfnelle, and a confession with the mouth vntozsaluation, in power of practice a doing the will of God as godly men and Christians; for they are the bleffed brethren & and Sifters,

is of Christ, that doe the will of Rather which is in heauer. hich will that we may have nowr to doe, I beseech God for Crant efus fake (by whom, and e for e Colawio, whomall things were created) to grant.

FINIS.

cuice your of bany to and No 3 Betton Street capuic stalls o



