

*idolatry*, and is thereby become *impure* and *corrupted*; I say, that Church after such apostacy, is no longer the Church of Christ, or any part of his Church, but the synagogue of Satan. If any one single person, formerly professing the true faith, falls afterwards into some damnable heresy, whatever that person was before his fall, he is, however, after it no longer a member of the Church of Christ in like manner, if a whole nation of people, formerly professing the faith and worship of Christ, does afterwards apostatize from the faith and doctrine of Christ, to *Arianism*; for example, *Nestorianism*, or some other damnable heresy or idolatry, that nation after its apostacy, is no longer any part of the church of Christ, then, by a parity of reason, if the whole Church, as Protestants pretend, did in fact apostatize from the faith and doctrine of Christ into damnable errors, idolatry, and superstition, for many ages before their reformation, it might much more properly be called a synagogue of Satan, than the Church of Christ; which essentially consisting of his true believers and worshippers, cannot admit of those impure qualities of damnable errors, heresy, idolatry, and superstition. If Protestants, therefore, will defend their reformation, which is built upon a supposal that the whole Church was corrupted with damnable errors, they must also maintain, that during those dark ages of Popery, there was no Church of Christ at all upon earth, there being no one nation, country, or city, that professed his true faith and worship for many ages; and consequently his Church or spiritual kingdom was entirely overthrown, which is a direct contradiction to their Bible where we read that this spiritual kingdom of Christ was, after its first establishment, never more to be destroyed, but to stand forever, and to see the downfall of other earthly kingdoms.

Secondly, This charge of *idolatry*, *superstition*, and *damnable errors*, against the Church of Christ, is also contrary to all those texts of the Bible, where we are clearly taught, that the Church of Christ is, by the grace and favour of God, for ever established in holiness.

1. "They shall fear thee as long as the sun and moon endure, throughout all generations." Psalm lxxii. 5.

"In his days shall the righteous flourish: and abundance of peace so long as the moon endureth." ver. 7.

According to the title prefixed to this psalm, in the English Protestant translation, David here speaks of the kingdom or Church of Christ. Now here we read, that the prosperity of the reign and the holiness of the people, that adore him in all nations shall last as long as the sun and moon shall run their courses in the heavens; which takes in all ages to the end of the world.

2. "And it shall come to pass in the last days, that the mountain of the Lord's house shall be

established in the top of the mountains, and shall be exalted above the hills, and all nations shall flow unto it." Isiah ii. 2. "And the idols he shall utterly abolish." ver. 18.

## The Eucharist: a Poem.

(For the Cross.)

TESTIMONIES OF THE HOLY FATHERS, &c.

(Continued)

In chains or free, in war or peace, the Spouse Of Christ preserved this greatest of her gifts And faithfully ador'd it; Priests and Doctors Prelates and Pontiffs, Greece, Imperial Rome The East and West with one accord have join'd In this deep adoration all bow'd down Before their common Saviour, as we read In ev'ry page of Faith's bright history.

At length in days of darkness two proud spirits, Ambassadors from Hell, assaul'd the Church On this grand mystery; their feeble reason Their only weapon 'gainst the rock of ages. In different ways they wound the Lamb of God One turns him to a phantom, and the other Joins Bread of earth to the True Bread from Heav'n.

Unhappy! who in evil hour forsook The Fount of living waters, and imbibed Most ven'mous poison from their broken cisterns Adored a lying Idol which their hearts And not their hands erected; form'd a Creed Till then unknown, and by Satanic wiles Allured a credulous people. O! disciples Of Hell's proud Master, him who fain would know Against supreme command both good and evil O bend your necks beneath the yoke of Faith Submit your stubborn spirit unto Him, Infinite Wisdom, Truth and boundless Power Whose gift is life, and faculty of thought Are you his Counsellors? Where was your reason

Before all time, when by his single word A world, from nothing, started into life When from his ancient and enrapturing Beauty He cloth'd the Heav'ns, earth, and sea with Glory And wrote his Majesty on all his works In characters of Wisdom? Shall you dare To measure his immensity? Must you sound His fathomless depths? Or will you not adore Unless you see Him, that invisible Spirit Whose unseen but perpetual influence Extends o'er all creation?—

Stop, vain man!

Ashes and dust bow down, confess, adore!

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