

Now, there are two facts which ought to be named in connexion with the great plea for partyism, that more is done by means of parties. First, the Lord and the Lord's ambassadors both taught and enforced unity. No man can deny this with the Christian oracles before him. Secondly, the Lord's people, before christianity was corrupted, were a united people. These two facts are of themselves quite sufficient to overturn every objection against unity and every argument in favor of the blessedness of division. We have here the sling and the pebble from the brook which will smite to the death all the giants in creation who plead the claims of partyism.

2. *The religious world of eighteen hundred and fifty three is awfully proud and haughty.* Partyism and pride go hand in hand; nay, the latter generally outstrips the former. Who does not know Christian professors, good evangelicals, entertaining as plump orthodoxy as there is in the land, who will not speak with each other; and ministers are to be met with in almost every town who would almost as soon salute a heathen god as to shake hands with each other. And then if 'our party' be many, and 'your party' be few, what airs of superiority 'our party' will put on! It is also ascertained that those who have a chapel one hundred feet long, are so far above those who have a chapel only fifty feet, that the first must be considered very much higher and better than the other. A minister with a D. D. tacked to his name is so many grades above one without these initials that a Jew and a Samaritan could not keep their distance better than they. But we will leave this train of reflection to the reader.

3. *The religious world reverences human authority.* Go and attend Mass, go and listen to the Litany, go and pay attention to Doctor Peto proving that baptism came in the room of circumcision, go and hear a revival sermon, go to a Kirk Session, go to a Synod, go to a denominational Council, go to a sitting of Conference, go to a Lecture Room where theology is taught; what is seen, what is heard? Alas, it is not too much to affirm that the religious world *reverences* authority other than the authority of God. True, there is not one party but what has something from the Bible, nor one party but has more or less of what is authorized by the Lord of All. Yet there is not one 'branch of the church,' so-called, but depends as much on the traditions of men as upon the revelations of God. Do we take pleasure in recording this—in having it to record? "God knoweth!" Would to God that all revered, cherished, loved, obeyed, and stood fast to the Bible, and all man-made worship thrown back to mingle with Egyptian darkness.