

Let those treat you harshly who are not acquainted with the disposition
contrary to truth and mercy is a error. Let the severest you harshly do
know not how hard it is to get rid of old prejudices. Let those treat you
harshly who have not learned how very hard it is to purge the interior,
and render it capable of contemplating the sea of the soul. Truth. But as
to us, we are far from this disposition towards persons who are separated
from us, not by crimes of their own invention, but by being entangled in those
of others. We are so far from this disposition, that we pray to God, that
in refuting the false opinions of those who are your fellow, not from malice, but
imprudence, he would bestow upon us that spirit of power which has no
other content than charity, no other wish but for your salvation."—St.
Augustine, Doctor of the Church. A.D. 400, contra Ep. Fund. l. i. c. ii