

then, if any, must be in our mode of *celebrating it*.

Now in order that we may determine whether this is so or not, the question first has to be settled, How *ought* the service to be celebrated? Is there any rule or principle laid down to which we can refer? At present no rule seems to be practically recognised. The minister, in reading, pursues his own way, the clerk his, the children theirs, \* the rest of the congregation theirs. The responses in most Churches, so far from affording an agreeable sound, are, without exaggeration, a jumble of discords. Is there then *no* rule on the subject by which a Christian congregation *ought* to be guided? There is indeed such a rule, and it is because we have, except to a very limited extent, lost sight of this, that fault must be found with our ordinary mode of *celebrating* the public worship of God. Hence it is that people complain of God's worship being heavy, and tedious, and dull. They are unconscious of the cause perhaps, and would be the very first, possibly, to quarrel with the remedy about to be proposed, but however this may

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\* The children here referred to mean those of the Parish School, who form a feature in every English Parish Church Congregation.