

ing that God has forgiven me all my sins in His love, and I accept His holy word as my only guide.

I cannot return to the bondage of the Church of Rome for the following reasons, chosen from amongst many others:—

(1) The doctrine of the Apostolic succession from Peter to Leo XIII. is an imposture. One cannot find in the Gospel a single word to prove that Peter ever passed a single hour at Rome. The superiority or supremacy accorded by the Roman Catholic Church to Peter, above the other Apostles, is another imposture. Every time that the twelve Apostles questioned the Saviour as to which of them should be the first, the chief, the pope, He always replied that in His Church there should be none first, or chief, or pope, of such sort. And more than this, He replied positively to the mother of Zebedee's children that He had not received from His Father the authority to set one of His Apostles above the rest. "To sit at My right hand or at My left is not Mine to give" (Mat. xx. 23). We have an irrefutable and infallible proof that our Saviour did not place Peter at the head of the other Apostles, as the first, the chief, or the pope, in the dispute which arose amongst the Apostles shortly before His death. "There was also a strife among them, which of them should be accounted the greatest" (Luke xxii. 24). Such a dispute would never have arisen if Jesus Christ had appointed Peter to be the greatest or the first among them. They would certainly have known it, and Jesus Christ would have answered them, "Have you, then, so

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