

creeds, confessions or systems of different denominations, ever to be purged from the Church in its present state of divisions. Who is to commence the work? Who dares to undertake the task of pointing out the errors of his own denomination? If such a man could be found, he would instantly be denounced and silenced as the enemy of his church, or a traitor to his party. He could not expect, and would not meet with a kinder reception, than Jesus Christ himself received from the Jewish church, when he exposed their departure from the truth of God, as declared in the Scriptures. If the error may not be exposed by a member of the same denomination, how can it be supposed that any interference will be listened to when coming from one of another sect? All history and observation proves that no church has ever yielded to the force of arguments, however strong, coming from an opponent.

When, however, the Church shall be again united, one of the greatest obstacles to the discovery and acknowledgement of error will be removed, and as there will then be no opposing sects to keep alive party pride, passion and prejudice, such as may be honestly desirous of knowing the truth, may with perfect safety, without the danger of persecution or reproach, yield themselves unreservedly to the teaching of the Holy Spirit through his own word. They will avail themselves of the history of the past, and the discussions that have already been had of perhaps every point of doctrine contained in the Bible; and as there will then be no longer any sense of disgrace in the acknowledgement that we know nothing as we ought to know, men will readily renounce their past opinions, when the force of sound argument shall prove them to have been unscriptural. And then it will be seen and admitted that truth and error have been mingled in the creed of every sect, and the watchmen on the walls of Zion will begin to see eye to eye.

As the division of the Church into opposing sects forbids the hope of eradicating any error of doctrine that finds a place in the creed of any denomination, so it is the capital engine of Satan, the arch enemy, to prevent any reformation of practice.

(TO BE CONTINUED.)

THREE CARDINAL POINTS IN OUR THEOLOGY.

1st. The testimony of God *believed*, constitutes Christian *faith*.

2d. The testimony of God *understood*, constitutes Christian *knowledge*.

3d. The testimony of God *obeyed*, constitutes Christian *practice*.

COROLLARY.—All true religion is founded upon the testimony of God, developed and authenticated by the Holy Spirit.