

England, says, is so well put, that I quote it here :
 "The authority of the Christian minister in any place is given to him by the Church in which and for which he acts, and this authority is apostolic if his teaching is sound in apostolic truth ; this authority is from Christ, if His Church is a legitimate Christian community formed in obedience to Christ's command." We can all endorse such teaching as that, and nothing else is either conformable to Scripture or to common sense.

We may very well test a theory by demanding how it will work in certain cases that are quite supposable in the world's experience. You cannot have a church without bishops, we are told ; you cannot have valid sacraments without apostolic order in the transmission of episcopal grace ; you cannot be sure of the position wherein you stand in relation to the salvation of the soul. Very well, we say ; we grant that to be an hypothesis for the moment, let us see how it works in certain cases. Here is an island in a remote part of the world. The people that dwell on it were not long ago heathen, without the knowledge of God or of Jesus Christ the Saviour of the world. In some way or other the Holy Scriptures in their own tongue fall into the hands of these idolaters ; they read those Scriptures ; they are touched by what they read ; by the blessing of God's Spirit they come to see Jesus Christ the Son of God as in some measure we see Him, and they trust in Him. Their lives are changed step by step. They turn from their former sinful courses and their lives, as a rule, are marked by the purity that the Bible enjoins. By and by the best informed