

iniquity have I not hid. I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord; and thou forgavest the iniquity of my sin. (ciii. 3.) Who forgiveth all thine iniquities; who healeth all thy diseases. (cxxx. 4.) But there is forgiveness with thee, that thou mayest be feared.

Isaiah xlii. 25. I, even I, am he that blotteth out thy transgressions for mine own sake, and will not remember thy sins.

Daniel ix. 4. And I prayed unto the Lord by God, and made my confession, and said, O Lord, the great and dreadful God, keeping the covenant and mercy to them that love him, and to them that keep his commandments.

Luke v. 8. When Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus' knees, saying, Depart from me; for I am a sinful man, O Lord. (xi. 4.) And forgive us our sins: for we also forgive every one that is indebted to us. And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil.

1 John i. 9. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

(See also Job vii. 20, 21; Mark xi. 25; Luke xxiii. 39-43.)

Indulgences and Supererogation.

Q. 70. What does the Roman Catholic Church teach as to indulgences?

A. That they shorten the sufferings of souls in purgatory.

Q. 71. On what doctrine is that of indulgences founded?

A. The doctrine of works of supererogation.

Q. 72. What does Rome mean by supererogation?

A. That certain Roman Catholics may have a superabundant merit of works, and that such superabundance of the merit of so-called saints may be doled out by the Pope, as he states, to shorten the sufferings of souls in purgatory.

Q. 73. How do you disprove this doctrine?

A. The saints have no justifying merit of their own, and no Christian is capable of cultivating any excess of excellences in character that may go to supply the deficiencies of some fellow-Christian.

Isaiah lxiv. 6. But we are all as an unclean thing, and all our righteousness are as filthy rags.

Luke xvii. 10. So likewise ye, when ye shall have done all those things which are commanded you, say, We are unprofitable servants: we have done that which was our duty to do.