

thousand five hundred years too late to be the true church of Christ. Martin Luther laid the first foundation of the Protestant religion, in the year 1517, and his followers took the name of Protestants, in the year 1529; before which time, neither the name, nor the religion was ever heard of in the christian world. And we defy all the learned men amongst them, to name so much as one single man before Luther, who held throughout their 39 articles, or any other entire system of Protestantcy, as it is now professed in any country upon earth. Now, how can that be Christ's church, which for so many ages had no being in the world? since all christians are obliged to acknowledge, that the true church of Christ can be no other than that, which had its beginning from Christ; and, as he promised, was to stand for ever, see Matt. 16. v. 18. and Matt. 28. v. 20.

2. Because the Protestant religion cannot be true, except the whole scripture, both of the old and new testament, from the beginning to the end, be false; which in so many places assures us, that the church of Christ should never go astray; for every one knows that the Protestant religion pretends to be a *reformation* of the church of Christ, and it is evident there could be no room for a reformation of the church of Christ, except the church was gone astray: so that the whole building of their pretended *reformed church* is founded upon this supposition of the whole church, before the time of Luther, having been corrupted by damnable errors. "Laity and clergy," (says their homily book, approved by their thirty-nine articles, article 25), "learned and unlearned: all ages, sects and degrees of men, women and children, of whole christendom, (an horrible and most dreadful thing to think) have been at once drowned in abominable idolatry: of all other vices most detested by God, and damnable to man, and that for the space of eight hundred years and more *Hom. of Peril of Idolatry, part 3.*

Now, I say, if this be true, which is the main foundation of the Protestant church, scripture which so of-