

baptism included, and against all merely human testimony, against all uninspired history, against all ecclesiastical practice not regulated by direct inspiration. A thousand Pede-baptist witnesses could add nothing to the strength of the evidence which it supplies, nor detract from its validity. The only infallible interpreter, without ignoring his use of human instrumentality in discovering his mind, is the Spirit who takes the things of Christ and shews them to us, and who guides into all truth.

Still, I confess to a disappointment—a painful disappointment—existing and felt before the present discussion commenced, to find men accepting, confessing, and pledged by their ordination vows to the acceptance of infant baptism, and baptism by aspersion as of divine institution and divine warrant, sitting silent when those ordinances, which they profess, preach and observe in the name of the Lord, are ridiculed, denounced and contemptuously spurned. Is it possible that Pedobaptists are so completely prostrated by the *Union Epidemic* that they are incapable of one vigorous effort in support of a single article of scriptural truth which is impugned, satisfied with that fraction of revelation which all parties, who repose under the shade of Evangelical liberalism, accept?

There is no difficulty in dealing with Baptist logicians. Bind them down to *what is written*. Accept nothing but what the *Word* testifies. Grant nothing but what the *Word* demands. One source of weakness in Pedobaptists is allowing themselves to be drawn into the indefinite region of uninspired history and human testimony, which cannot speak with authority.

For the sake of many in the Baptist churches, who desire to know the truth, and to work out their salvation with fear and trembling in all simplicity, I would be delighted to use all "meekness, instructing those that oppose themselves, if God peradventure will give them repentance to the acknowledging of the truth:" but with respect to such as the *Messenger*, whom I hold responsible for the sayings of his nameless and unknown assistants, who is resolved to adhere to his position at any sacrifice of candour and truthfulness, it remains only to "rebuke them sharply, that they may be sound in the faith."

All Scripture is given by inspiration of God and is *profitable*; and I cheerfully go out, bearing what reproach I may, without the camp of those who refuse the Old Testament as a rule of faith and practice, and of those who think they can cull out of the Scripture what is *essential*, and hand back to the author the rest as well-meant and useless trifles, which may not interfere with the confederation of the States of Christendom.

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