

ministered this sacrament ; the Catholic Church alone retains all the merciful institutions of Jesus Christ ; no other church even pretends to it.

*Obj.—Was not this anointing only to cure the body, and a mere ceremony that was to be discontinued?*

*A.—*We do not read so in the Bible — for St. James says, “ If the sick person be in sin it will be forgiven him,” which does not refer to the cure of the body.

Besides, the command of St. James is positive : “ If there be any sick amongst you.” What was ordained for the first Christians ought to be good for the present. This sacrament of anointing was continued in the Church from the commencement, and in every country.

*Q.—Is it anywhere mentioned in Sacred Scripture that earnest belief in one's own predestination for the kingdom of heaven insures salvation?*

*A.—*Such a doctrine is nowhere to be found, but the contrary can be seen in many places in the Bible. St. Paul advises the Philippians to work out their salvation with fear and trembling (PHIL. ii. 12.), which need not be done if salvation were certain, and the Book of Ecclesiastics says, “ no man knoweth whether he is worthy of love or hatred ” (ix. 1). “ And if the just man shall scarcely be saved, where shall the ungodly and the sinner appear?” (I. PETER iv. 18.) “ Wherefore, brethren, labor the more that by