

christians, and the company of those that are such, in the same place and position.

*Q.* Upon what grounds do we make the preaching of the pure Word of God and the administration of the Sacraments, Notes of the Church?

*A.* Because the Word of God is the first and chief means of grace so ordained and appointed of God, both to *create* the Church and to *sustain* it.

*Q.* Why do we make the due administration of the Sacraments a Note of the Church?

*A.* Because Christ has given a commandment to those who believe on Him to observe the same, as ordinances distinctive of His disciples, and where His command is obeyed, a company of His believers does surely exist.

*Q.* What do you understand by "the pure Word of God," as referred to in the Article?

*A.* Those leading articles or essentials of Christian doctrine which are essentially necessary to be known and believed in order to Salvation.

*Q.* How would you define them?

*A.* Truths relating to the person and atoning work of Our Lord Jesus Christ, and those relating to the person and work of the Holy Spirit?

*Q.* What did Luther declare to be the test of a standing or falling Church?

*A.* The doctrine of Justification and Salvation by Faith of Jesus Christ alone, and not by our works or deservings.

*Q.* The definition refers not then to absolute or perfect purity of doctrine, yet what are we to consider of those whose errors do not reach unto the articles before referred to?

*A.* Any error of doctrine which may be plainly proved by Scripture, if held by a body of Christians makes it so far defective, but if the essentials before referred to are truly held, it may yet be regarded as a true part of the Visible Church of Christ, and capable of Reformation.

*Q.* What do you understand by the Sacraments being duly administered according to Christ's ordinance, in all things that of *necessity* are requisite unto the same?