

Father's kingdom, and which is able to make us wise unto salvation. But above all we thank Him for Jesus who is the Author, and finisher and ground of our faith.

Nor is the Baptism of the Church of Rome Scriptural Baptism. The Apostles baptised with water alone. That Church has the superstitious additions of driving the devil from the water, of putting salt into it, of anointing the child with oil, and many other things not sanctioned by the word of God. The Council of Trent declared that baptism removes original sin, therefore, we infer, it is essential to salvation. If this were true, no baptised person could possibly be lost. For in every case in which "the guilt of sin is remitted," the man is just before God. But baptism does not remove sins, neither is it essential to salvation. It is a sacrament which all believers are enjoined to observe, still the neglect of it will not exclude a man from the kingdom of heaven. We cannot but reproach the Church of Rome for having in essential things forsaken Gospel truth, or at least obscured it by self-invented doctrines, and forms of worship. When she says that she is the sole Church outside of which there is no salvation, we say, No; for beyond her boundaries the Holy Spirit carries on His work in convincing men of sin, of righteousness, and of judgment, and in leading them to the Lord Jesus for pardon and the hope of eternal life. When she says that she is infallible, again we say No: for both her Councils and Popes have erred from the days of the heretical pope Liberius, down to Pío Nono, and his dogma of the Immaculate Conception of Mary, a dogma opposed alike by Scripture, tradition, and common sense. Is the Church of Rome the true Church? I see not a single feature in her constitution to prove that she is; Nay, everything within her walls proclaims that she is not. The true Church has Christ, and Christ alone for its Lord and Head. The Church of Rome has the pope as a Substitute for the ever-present Saviour. The members of the true Church worship "One Lord." They offer their prayers and praises to Jesus, the hearer and answerer of prayer, who alone is possessed of the gifts and blessings they require to make them happy in this life, and that which is to come, and who alone can clothe them with the righteousness they need to appear just in the sight of a holy God. The members of the Church of Rome worship, what? Shall I not say, many gods? They pray to departed Saints. They imagine that their sainted dead possess a superabundance of merit which they have no use for in heaven, and which they can impart to poor erring mortals on earth in answer to their prayers. They pray also to the Virgin Mary, and place supreme faith in her entreaties with the Lord on their behalf. Is such not unscriptural? The Apostle John when wrapt in heavenly vision, was so overpowered with the glory of the things that were being shown to him that he fell down to worship at the feet of the angel who acted as his guide. But the angel called out immediately, "See thou do it not, worship God." When the people gathered together and would have worshipped Paul and Barnabas, these faithful men "rent their clothes, ran into the crowd, calling aloud, 'turn to the living God who made heaven and earth, and the sea, and all that are therein.'" And when Christ was being tempted of the devil in the wilderness, he said, "Get thee hence, Satan, for it is written, Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and Him only shalt thou serve."

The members of the true Church in obedience to Divine command de-