

in the language, thus doubly confusing and misleading the people. The references to baptism in the New Testament are simple and easily understood, requiring no departure from the ordinary use of language. 'In' is not required to be changed to 'at' 'with' &c., nor 'into' to 'to' &c., nor 'out of' to 'from.' Neither do we have to advocate the absurd idea of a washing or bathing of the whole body by sprinkling a few drops of water on the face, nor are we required to say that the application of these drops is a burial, as baptism is declared to be. As would be expected on the supposition that the baptism of the apostles was an immersion, we find the writers of the first and second and succeeding centuries declare it to be such, and when sprinkling and pouring are introduced we find them regarded as only permitted as baptism when immersion could not be administered, and even in this case they were regarded as insufficient to qualify for offices in the church, while sprinkling only gained an equality with immersion through the Pope of Rome, by whom also the Virgin Mary is put upon an equality with the Son of God, and this only after thirteen centuries.

On the supposition, however, that sprinkling was the baptism of the New Testament we have to face the following absurdities: 1st. Our Lord chose the word in Greek which always meant to immerse, and never to sprinkle to designate the act of sprinkling, instead of taking the word *rantizo* which ever meant to sprinkle. Thus our Lord made it necessary for all who spoke of the christian ordinance to explain that *baptizo* in reference to it, did not mean *baptizo* but *rantizo*, and whenever there was no one to make this explanation; the people were most surely deluded. 2nd. In the New Testament reference to baptism, in addition to unnatural uses of prepositions, &c., and fanciful explanations of the need of much water for sprinkling a few drops upon each candidate, we must understand the Apostles to describe such sprinkling as a bathing of the whole body, Ephe. 5, 16, Titus 3, 5, a wash-