

would be impossible that the Bible could be in the hands, except of a few, and even at the present time, notwithstanding the spread of education, the illiterate, who form a great mass of the people, and the children who cannot read so as to understand it fairly, would be without a rule of faith.

5. Protestants themselves do not take the Bible alone as their Rule of Faith, as each denomination has its peculiar creed. The Presbyterians have their Confession of Faith, usually called the "Westminster." The Church of England has its "Thirty-nine Articles." The Baptists, Methodists, and other denominations of Christians have their own peculiar tenets of belief. If any member of the various denominations should interpret the Bible in a different sense from that recognised by the whole body, he would be told to retire from the church. If the words of Christ: "This is my body," be taken in their literal sense by a Protestant, he would be charged with Romanising, or believing Catholic doctrine. Those words of Christ have been interpreted in a hundred different ways by Protestant writers.

6. The Bible interpreted by individuals has given rise over to five hundred sects and denominations, and new ones are forming every day, all disagreeing in their views and beliefs of various texts of the Scriptures, and yet making the Bible the corner-stone of their religion, "and are tossed about by every wind of doctrine" (Eph. iv. 14).

7. A Rule of Faith being so necessary ought to be easily understood, but St. Peter says,