

Indeed, I am often puzzled, when I see many whose lives and habits seem to be without stain, observing all other ordinances blameless, but yet neglecting this the highest of them all.

Dear brethren, think of these things, I pray you.—We live in serious days and in times of unhappy divisions. Errors in doctrine and practice abound, as they have done in other ages of the Church. To the “Law and the Testimony” I would refer you all. The pure Word of God is our only safe guide. In the words of the 6th Article of our Church, “Holy Scripture containeth all things necessary to Salvation, so that whatsoever is not read therein, nor may be proved thereby, is not to be required of any man, as an article of Faith, or be thought requisite or necessary to salvation.” I feel constrained to warn you against new heresies which are creeping around us. We are told by St. Paul to “mark them that cause divisions among you and avoid them.” Now, there are those among us, who do this very thing; who tell our people and members of other denominations, “you are all wrong. You cannot be saved as Church of England people, Methodists, Presbyterians or anything else but as with us.” Therefore come out from those Churches and join us; and now and then they do “beguile unstable souls.” I cannot enter at length into their tenets here.

Enough for you and me is it to know, that though the Lord has said “When you pray, say, Our Father.” &c., they *will not say it*. Enough that they will have no ministry, though Christ appointed one;—enough that they deny the Old Testament Saints a place among the Church of God. Alas for poor Abel, Enoch and Noah,—Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Moses and all the rest of the catalogue in the 11th chapter of the Epistle to the Hebrews. Enough that they say, “they alone constitute the Church,”—all outside are connected with apostacy, infidelity and Socinianism; that the moral law is not the rule of christian life; that it is almost blasphemy for a Christian to address the Holy Spirit, or to pray for the Spirit in any shape or way; that the Sabbath was ordained for Jews alone, &c., &c.” Those and other unsound and unscriptural doctrines maintained and industriously propagated among us, by the sect in question, are sufficient grounds for my warning you against them, agreeably to