

common; and sold their possessions and goods, and parted them to all men as every man had need. Should their practice be now urged upon all who profess the name of Jesus, how completely would it tend to the dismemberment and confusion of the whole system of society. But tho' we should see this effect as the plainest possible consequence of such a system, we should not be justified in allowing our fears of such an issue to interfere with our obedience to a plain and positive command of Christ. Let us lay it down, my Brethren, as a universal rule, that wherever we see a plain precept of the Saviour, it is our duty to act upon it, and to leave the event to God. We are not responsible for events, which flow from a simple and spiritual obedience to the command of Christ. But we do not see that the believers, in the early Church, had any positive command for such community of