

&c.) Thus do we receive the Holy Bible through the Holy Church, who herself received it from God.

There is no place where a man can hear so much of the Holy Scripture as at Church, and yet some people will wander anywhere to hear about the Bible in sermons, but they will not go to God's house to hear the Bible itself.

They think much of preaching, which is mostly the word of man; but they think little of the Church Service, which is so full of the Word of God.—*Selected.*

### A WONDERFUL PRAYER.

"Into Thine hand I commit my spirit; Thou hast redeemed me, O Lord God of truth.—Psalms xxxi, 5.

These words were in part repeated by our Lord in his expiring agony and by Stephen in the supreme moment of his martyrdom.

"Father into Thy hands I commend my spirit," is the prayer of Christ, "Lord Jesus receive my spirit," was the prayer of the proto martyr. The prayer in some one or another of its forms is associated with some of the most solemn and impressive events of Christian biography and history. It has been the dying ejaculation of the most noble saints and martyrs of the Church. It was uttered among the last words of Polycarp, of Basil, of Luther, of Huss, of Melancthon. It was the dying petition of Columbus and Silvio Pellico.

"Lord Jesus, receive my spirit," prayed Knox.

"In manus tuas, Domine, commendo spiritum meum," prays Ridley.

"Entre tes mains, Seigneur, je

recommende mon ame," prayed the Princess of Conti.

"O Lord, what does man come to," said John of Barneveld on his way to execution. "O God, my heavenly Father, receive my spirit," he prayed at the block.

"Lord Jesus, receive my spirit," prayed Bishop Hopper.

Cranmer, putting his right hand that had signed the recantation in the flame, and saying, "this unworthy hand," uttered the same prayer as did Latimer, Hamilton and Rowland Taylor in the flames.

Lord Harrant, a martyr of Bohemia, prayed kneeling by the block; "into thy hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit; in Thee have I always trusted; receive me, my blessed Redeemer."

Lord Otho, another Bohemian martyr, prayed "Almighty God, to Thee I commend my spirit; receive it for the sake of Christ, and admit it to the glory of Thy presence."

"Miserere mei, Deus," said Henry Gray, Duke of Suffolk, holding up his hand and looking up to heaven. He then said "into Thy hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit," and made the sign to the executioner.

"Lord, into Thy hands I commend my spirit" prayed Lady Gray at the block.

Perhaps no prayer in the Bible has such dark and tragic, and at the same time triumphant associations as this. It has been the last testimony of the most confident faith, the last cry on penitent lips, the last petition of beggars and kings and in all lands and Christian times the martyr's exclamation in victory.—*Messenger.*

"O God, make clean our hearts within us."