

many men, as under the plea of liberty of conscience or private judgement, equally proves the fallibility of all human nature, and the need of submitting to that authority which Christ has given to His Church; and which is as necessary to preserve peace and order in the Church, as civil authority is necessary to preserve peace and order in society.

The next great question which many would ask is this, Which then is the true Church, or the Church which has the Divine Commission, or the right authority? We admit, many will say, that what you say is all right enough, and plain enough, if only we could tell where that authority of which you speak, and that church to which Holy Scripture refers us, are to be found. There are so many so-called churches, and there is so much difference of opinion among the learned of all parties, that it is impossible for the mass of men to ascertain the real truth of this matter;—and who will say that this is not the case? Can we expect all men to be equally learned or equally talented, or able to search out the truth on such a point, when so many who are supposed to be learned differ so much? And yet, notwithstanding all these admissions, the Bible is as plain as ever. God's word speaks most unmistakably as to the need of obeying church authority as well as civil authority. We must *obey* and we must *submit ourselves*, or in the eye of Holy Scripture, we are no better than heathens. All our religion, and all our fine professions, and all our boasted enlightenment of the nineteenth century, become null and void unless we be humble and obedient children of the Church of God.

It will easily be seen that this train of reasoning would involve a larger essay than the present occasion will permit. But as I am chiefly concerned with churchmen, and the duties of churchmen, both lay and clerical, the few following suggestions must be addressed to them especially.

We profess to belong to the true Church of God. We believe the Anglican Church to be a real branch of the Catholic and Apostolic Church organized by Christ and the Holy Apostles. We believe all this, I say, and we openly declare this belief of ours each time of Divine Service; but the question is,