

*WHAT THE BIBLE SAYS
ABOUT THE CHURCH.*

In these days our dear Lord's Words are being fulfilled. If any man shall say to you, Lo! here is Christ, or Lo! He is there, believe it not. For false Christs and false Prophets shall rise and shall show wonders to seduce, if possible, even the elect. In these days of excitement people are carried away by every wind of vain doctrine. We find that there are two hundred and two religious sects, each professing to have Christ. We need then to see what God's Book says are the marks of that society—to which Christ Himself said—Lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world. The Church which Jesus Christ founded has four marks. She is One; she is Holy; she is Catholic; she is Apostolic.

One because all her members have One Faith, have the same Sacraments, are all united under One Head, Jesus Christ.

Holy because she teaches Holy Doctrine, taught by the Holy Spirit.

Catholic. universal—exists in all ages, teaches all nations.

Apostolic, joined to Apostles in her Doctrine and Ministry.

None of the 202 sects have these marks. Of the Church Christ says "The gates of Hell shall not prevail against her." Baptism is the entrance into the Church. Our Lord's command, to Apostles and their successors, Go ye, make disciples of all nations by baptizing them in the name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Ghost. The church we said was One. S. Paul says, For as the Body is one, and hath many members, and all members of that

one Body, being many, are one Body, so also is Christ, for by One Spirit are we all baptized into One Body (1 Cor. xii. 13.) To the Ephesians, chapter 1, 22nd and 23rd verses, S. Paul thus speaks of the church: Hath put all things under His feet, and gave Him to be the Head over all things to the Church which is His Body. In 1 S. Timothy iii. 15, the Apostle called the Church the House of God, the pillar and ground of the truth. Again the Ephesians iv. 4—6: There is one Body, one Spirit, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling—one Lord, one Faith, one Baptism, one God and Father of all.

She is Holy.—The writer of Epistle to the Hebrews says "Ye are come unto Mount Zion, unto city of the Living God—the Heavenly Jerusalem—to an innumerable company of angels,"—&c. Hebrews xii. 22—24.

Kingdom of God is not meat and drink—but Righteousness. Peace, Joy in the Holy Ghost.—Romans xiv. 17.

Catholic or universal.—Of Her we read in Book of Revelation vii. 9, "Lo, a great multitude which no man could number, of all nations and kindreds, and people, tongues." &c.

Apostolic.—Joined to the Apostles in Doctrine and Ministry.

We are told of those converted by S. Peter's sermon (Acts ii. 42): That they continued stedfastly in the Apostles' Doctrine and fellowship, and in Breaking of Bread and Prayers.

Our Lord's command, in S. Matt. xviii. 17 verse, where He speaks prophetically regarding the Church, which He built upon the foundation