

or spiritual superiority; so that even if there be in our opinion evident uncertainty, and only a slight balance of probability in favour of one side rather than the other, we are naturally influenced by that slight difference, and therefore they are bound, by the ordinary principles of action, to adopt as their rule the teaching of Holy Scripture, until it has been *proved* to be absolutely false.

Another argument in favour of the Scriptural system is that it is suited to all sorts and conditions of men, whereas these other so-called philosophical systems are only adapted for the intellectual and well cultivated portion of mankind. It was so with the teaching of the philosophers of old, and it was a new glorious feature of the last Divine revelation, of Christianity, that "to the poor the Gospel is preached." I offer you these few suggestions, my Reverend Brethren, hoping that some of you may find them practically useful, not because there is anything new in them, but because I believe that the simple old mode of teaching is required rather than novelty, and, rightly treated, is the surest bulwark against attractive and plausible unfounded theories.

I fear that I have already overtaxed your patience by a Charge which has become much longer than I intended it to be; but I must add a few words more before I conclude. Let us all ask ourselves: are we each, in our respective fields, labouring diligently for the glory of God and the salvation and edification of the souls committed to us? I hope you each, at least once a year, on the anniversary of your ordination to the Priesthood, read over and meditate upon the solemn charge then delivered to you and your own pledges. Oh! see to it that ye are faithfully and earnestly striving to fulfil the obligations then laid upon you. You may have increasing congregations, attentive hearers, and yet not be accomplishing any work for eternity. Some of you have been laboring for many years in the Lord's vineyard, have indeed borne the burden and heat of the day, and it may be that disappointments and apparent failures, in what you have endeavoured to effect in His service, have discouraged you and made you unwilling now to attempt anything, beyond the mere routine duties of your Parish or Mission; but, whether our experience has been long or short, we must ever bear in mind that it is not in us to command success, and that our duty is still to persevere,