

find them to be (as he frequently said that they were) true food for the soul.

But if you are determined still to follow a course which belies your profession, at least permit others to worship God in the way which they think most in accordance with the precepts and practices of the Apostles, without aiming at them the shafts of your misdirected zeal. Seek more of the mind which was in Christ Jesus, that you may in lowliness of mind esteem others, if not better, at least equal with yourselves, and overcome that spirit of self-righteous pride which causes many of you to think more highly of yourselves than you ought to think.

Some of you still claim to be Churchmen, and would be very much offended if you were said to have forsaken the faith and form of religious worship of your fathers. Let me address to you a few words of expostulation. You suppose that you can receive spiritual advantage from every form of religious worship, provided that the teachers of these forms only preach Christ. You fancy that you can walk with Methodism and the church, and be at the same time united with both; but can two walk together unless they be agreed, and can there be any union between that church of which you say you are members and any sect that endeavours to prevent her usefulness, to slander her doctrines, and to call out for her destruction? Be not carried about with divers and strange doctrines, but as I have frequently urged upon you, "prove all things." Examine into the reason why the church claims to be *THE branch of the Catholic and Apostolic Church* planted in this empire, and then "hold fast that which is good." Be genuine devoted and sincere sons of the church, and mark them which cause divisions and offences contrary to the doctrine which ye have learned, *and avoid them.*

What superfluity in the ordinances of our church has been taken away, or what deficiency supplied by Methodism? None whatever. Can you not be saved in her without adding to her scriptural services man-made ordinances? If you can, of what value are such ordinances to you? If you cannot, what has become of all who died during the seventeen centuries that had passed away previous to the commencement of Methodism?

I have proved from the writings of Wesley and from the declarations of the church in the purest ages of Christianity, that persons appointed as Methodist Preachers are have no right to administer those sacraments, which are truly scriptural; why then should you forsake "the old way" which has been established by Christ and his Apostles, to unite yourselves with a society that cannot lay claim to an existence of 150 years? Why should you withdraw from those ordinances which can without contradiction claim Christ for their author, to depend upon those which at the best are but of doubtful authority?

Again: why do you make a mock of God in your prayers? You come to his house and desire of Him that he would be pleased to deliver you from "all false doctrine, heresy and schism," and yet with your hands you uphold what with your lips you condemn. Be consistent. Be either Churchmen or Methodists. How can you suppose that God will deliver you from schism, if you yourselves are