

from the Jewish Sabbath to the Christian Sunday, simply upon the custom of the early Church, there ought to be no difficulty in accepting the Apostolic character and origin of the Episcopate, the warrant for which is so much more abundant and clear and positive. The great and undoubted fact which confronts us is this : that from Christ downwards, throughout the New Testament and early Church history, the Church has never been without an authorizing order of ministers, called at first Apostles and afterwards Bishops, whose recognition and blessing seemed to be necessary to full Church membership and a valid ministry.

**3. The Church of England stands in the third place for the historic continuity of the Church.** Believing, as we do, in the Divine origin of the Church, and in the Apostolic character and origin of the Episcopate, the continuity or historic unity of the Church necessarily follows. This unity is of a threefold character : Continuity of Doctrine, of Order, of Life : Apostolic teaching, Apostolic order, Apostolic life. Throughout her history the Anglican Church has preserved in each respect her substantial unity with the Apostolic