

redeemed by the Son of Man, who through death redeemed us from death, and through resurrection became the second Man, our last Adam, who shall be the Father of a race of Kings and Priests unto God.

When He ascended up on high, He took the book and began to loose the seals of it. As each seal was loosed He claimed one more portion of the lost inheritance. When the last seal is broken, He will claim the whole, and will take measures to possess it.

(To be continued.)

DIFFICULTIES IN THE BOOK OF COMMON PRAYER.

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Next to the Word of God there is no book in all the world so much beloved by English Church people as the Book of Common Prayer. It is the book of their heads and of their hearts. For 300 years and more, generation after generation of toiling men and women have knelt before God with this book in their hands, and in its confessions and absolutions, its prayers and its praises, its holy rites and holy sacraments, have found comfort for weary hearts, and strength to fight the good fight of faith.

It is no part of my present purpose to give even an outline of the history of the book; when and by whom, and from what sources it was compiled; how it was reviewed by friends and suppressed by foes, are matters well known to all the students of this college. My object is to direct attention to certain difficulties which, notwithstanding our admiration for the book, candour compels to confess, are to be found in its pages.

As touching the three great Creeds there is no difficulty: none as regards the supremacy of holy Scripture in matters of faith: none as to the dignity and universal necessity of the two greatest sacraments of the Gospel; no difficulty at all as to the clear and emphatic belief of the church in the Apostolic origin of her ministry. If all parts of the book were characterized by a like freedom from ambiguity, we believe the Church of England would be at this hour the most united and powerful, and prosperous member of the great Catholic body. We can hardly claim that she is just now, the most *united*, or the