BOOK v. whereof whole kingdoms and nations professing Christ both have been heretofore and are at this present day divided about Christ. During which divisions and contentions amongst men albeit each part do justify itself, yet the one of necessity must needs err if there be any contradiction between them be it great or little, and what side soever it be that hath the truth, the same we must also acknowledge alone to hold with the true Church in that point, and consequently reject the other as an enemy in that case fallen away from the true Church.

Wherefore of hypocrites and dissemblers 1 whose profession at the first was but only from the teeth outward, when they afterwards took occasion to oppugn certain principal articles of faith, the Apostles which defended the truth against them pronounce them "gone out" from the fellowship of sound and sincere believers, when as yet the Christian religion they had not utterly cast off.

In like sense and meaning throughout all ages heretics have justly been hated as branches cut off from the body of the true Vine, yet only so far forth cut off as their heresies have extended. Both heresy and many other crimes which wholly sever from God do sever from the Church of God in part only. "The mystery of piety" saith the Apostle "is without perad-"venture great, God hath been manifested in the flesh, hath "been justified in the Spirit, hath been seen of Angels, hath " been preached to nations, hath been believed on in the world, "hath been taken up into glory 2." The Church a pillar and foundation of this truth, which no where is known or professed but only within the Church, and they all of the Church that profess it. In the meanwhile it cannot be denied that many profess this who are not therefore cleared simply from all either faults or errors which make separation between us and the wellspring of our happiness. Idolatry severed of old the Israelites, iniquity those scribes and Pharisees from God, who notwithstanding were a part of the seed of Abraham, a part of that very seed which God did himself acknowledge to be his Church. The Church of God may therefore contain both them which indeed are not his yet must be reputed his by us that know not their inward thoughts, and them whose

apparent wickedness testifieth even in the sight of the whole BOOK V. world that God abhorreth them. For to this and no other Ch. lxviii. 7. purpose are meant those parables which our Saviour in the Gospel 1 hath concerning mixture of vice with virtue, light with darkness, truth with error, as well an openly known and seen as a cunningly cloked mixture.

That which separateth therefore utterly, that which cutteth off clean from the visible Church of Christ is plain Apostasy, direct denial, utter rejection of the whole Christian faith as far as the same is professedly different from infidelity. Heretics as touching those points of doctrine wherein they fail; schismatics as touching the quarrels for which or the duties wherein they divide themselves from their brethren; loose, licentious and wicked persons as touching their several offences or crimes, have all forsaken the true Church of God, the Church which is sound and sincere in the doctrine that they corrupt, the Church that keepeth the bond of unity which they violate, the Church that walketh in the laws of righteousness which they transgress, this very true Church of Christ they have left, howbeit not altogether left nor forsaken simply the Church upon the main foundations whereof they continue built, notwithstanding these breaches whereby they are rent at the top asunder.

[7.] Now because for redress of professed errors and open schisms it is and must be the Church's care that all may in outward conformity be one, as the laudable polity of former ages even so our own to that end and purpose hath established divers laws, the moderate severity whereof is a mean both to stay the rest and to reclaim such as heretofore have been led awry². But seeing that the offices which laws require are

"had done:" the other, Ann. I. ii. ² Namely, the Act of Uniform- 347; a circular signed by the magistrates, pledging themselves to receive the holy Sacrament from "time to time, according to the "tenor of the Act of Uniformity:" both dated 1569, when the rebellion

¹ 1 John ii. 19. ² I Tim. iii. 16.

¹ [Matt. xiii. 24, 47.] ity: that under which the High Commission acted and the Queen's Injunctions were issued from time to time: other acts in 1562, 1581, 1593. Of interference with regard to the Communion in particular two in the north was yet rife. The act instances occur in Strype: one in of 1581 appears to have been thought Park. i. 568: where a person of the necessary on account of certain Temple is interrogated, "Whether doubts which existed as to the con-"he had received the Commu- struction of the previous general "nion in the Temple church, accus- enactments, and consequent lawful-"tomably, as others of the house ness of the pecuniary penalties which

BOOK V. always definite, and when that they require is done they go no farther, whereupon sundry ill-affected persons to save themselves from danger of laws pretend obedience, albeit inwardly they carry still the same hearts which they did before, by means whereof it falleth out that receiving unworthily the blessed sacrament at our hands, they eat and drink their own damnation; it is for remedy of this mischief here determined 1.

> the court of High Commission had been in the habit of occasionally enforcing. Strype, Grind. 345. A. D.

1577.]
T. C. lib. i. p. 167. [132, 133.]
"If the place of the fifth to the "Corinthians do forbid that we "should have any familiarity with "notorious offenders, it doth much "more forbid that they should be "received to the Communion. And "therefore papists being such as "which are notoriously known to "hold heretical opinions ought not "to be admitted much less compelled "to the Supper. For seeing that "our Saviour Christ did institute "his supper amongst his disciples "and those only which were as St. "Paul speaketh within, it is evident "that the papists being without, and "foreigners and strangers from the "Church of God ought not to be "received if they would offer them-"selves: and that minister that "shall give the Supper of the Lord
"to him which is known to be a "papist and which hath never made "any clear renouncing of popery "with which he hath been defiled "doth profane the table of the Lord, "and doth give the meat that is pre-"pared for the children unto dogs, "and he bringeth into the pasture "which is provided for the sheep, "swine and unclean beasts, contrary "to the faith and trust that ought "to be in a steward of the Lord's "house as he is. For albeit that I "doubt not but many of those "which are now papists pertain to the election of God, which God also "in his good time will call to the knowledge of his truth: yet not"withstanding they ought to be unto the minister and unto the

"of sacraments as strangers and "as unclean beasts..... The mi-"nistering of the holy sacraments "unto them is a declaration and "seal of God's favour and reconci-"liation with them, and a plain "preaching partly that they be washed already from their sins, partly that they are of the house-"hold of God and such as the Lord "will feed to eternal life, which is "not lawful to be done unto those "which are not of the household of "faith. And therefore I conclude "that the compelling of papists un-"to the communion, and the dis-'missing and letting of them go "when as they be to be punished for their stubbornness in popery (with this condition, if they will "receive the communion) is very "unlawful, when as although they "would receive it yet they ought to be kept back till such time as "by their religious and gospel like behaviour," &c. [Comp. T. C. i. 34. ap. Whitg. Def. 178. Whitgift in his answer had pleaded against popular election of bishops, that the Church is now full of papists, "atheists, and such like." T. C. replies, "Now you bring in papists, "idolaters, and atheists, which are "not only filthy but also poisoned "and venomed beasts. I am not "ignorant of that distinction which "saith that there be in the Church "which are not of the Church; and "those are hypocrites as is before "said: but I would gladly learn of "you, what scripture there is to "prove that idolaters and papists "and atheists are in the Church, "when St. Paul calleth all such "without the Church, and with "whom the Church hath nothing "Church touching the ministering "to do, nor they with the Church.

that whom the law of the realm doth punish unless they com- BOOK v. municate, such if they offer to obey law, the Church notwith- Ch. lxviii.8. standing should not admit without probation before had of their gospel-like behaviour.

[8.] Wherein they first set no time how long this supposed probation must continue; again they nominate no certain judgment the verdict whereof shall approve men's behaviour to be gospel-like; and that which is most material, whereas they seek to make it more hard for dissemblers to be received into the Church than law and polity as yet hath done, they make it in truth more easy for such kind of persons to wind themselves out of the law and to continue the same they were. The law requireth at their hands that duty which in conscience doth touch them nearest, because the greatest difference between us and them is the Sacrament of the Body and Blood of Christ, whose name in the service of our communion we celebrate with due honour, which they in the error of their mass profane. As therefore on our part to hear mass were an open departure from that sincere profession wherein we stand, so if they on the other side receive our communion, they give us the strongest pledge of fidelity that man can demand. What their hearts are God doth know. But if they which mind treachery to God and man¹ shall once apprehend this

"You might as well have placed in to the Jesuits and seminary priests "the Church, wolves, tigers, lions especially: who were very busy in "and bears, i.e. tyrants and perse- England about 1596. See Strype, "cutors...But now I hear you ask Ann. iv. 422. Compare in the same "me what then shall become of the vol. p. 53, Topclyff's statement in a "papists and atheists, if you will "not have them to be of the Church? "I answer that they may be of "and in the Commonwealth, which "neither may, nor can be, of or in the Church. And therefore the "Church having nothing to do with "such, the magistrate ought to see "that they join to hear the sermons "in the place where they are made, "...and cause them to be examined, "how they profit; and if they pro-"fit not, to punish them; and as "their contempt groweth, so to in-"crease the punishment, until such "time as they declare manifest to-"kens of unrepentantness, and then "because they may avoid suspicion "as rotten members...cut them off."] "of the magistrates the better, and

letter to Burghley: "There is a "great danger in many others, who "sometimes do come to the church, "and yet be papists both in their "inward hearts, and in their out-"ward actions and conversations, " refusing to receive the communion; "and in every thing else as ill as the "worst. Of which there be also "two sorts. The one goeth to the "church for saving of the penalties "of thirteen score pounds a year: "yet his wife and whole family, or "most of them, continue resolute "recusants and harbour traitors. "The other sort go to the church ¹ [This expression refers perhaps "is dispensed withal by some secret

BOOK v. advantage given them, whereby they may satisfy law in Ch lxviii.9. pretending themselves conformable (for what can law with reason or justice require more?) and yet be sure the Church will accept no such offer, till their gospel-like behaviour be allowed; after that our own simplicity hath once thus fairly eased them from sting of law, it is to be thought they will learn the mystery of gospel-like behaviour when leisure serveth them. And so while without any cause we fear to profane sacraments, we shall not only defeat the purpose of most wholesome laws, but lose or wilfully hazard those souls from which the likeliest means of full and perfect recovery are by our indiscretion withheld.

> For neither doth God thus bind us to dive into men's consciences, nor can their fraud and deceit hurt any man but themselves. To him they seem such as they are, but to us they must be taken for such as they seem. In the eye of God they are against Christ that are not truly and sincerely with him, in our eyes they must be received as with Christ that are not to outward show against him.

> The case of impenitent and notorious sinners is not like unto theirs whose only imperfection is error severed from pertinacy, error in appearance content to submit itself to better instruction, error so far already cured as to crave at our hands that sacrament the hatred and utter refusal whereof was the weightiest point wherein heretofore they swerved and went astray.

> [9.] In this case therefore they cannot reasonably charge us with remiss dealing, or with carelessness to whom we impart the mysteries of Christ, but they have given us manifest occasion to think it requisite that we earnestly advise rather and exhort them to consider as they ought their sundry oversights, first in equalling undistinctly crimes with errors as touching force to make uncapable of this sacrament; secondly in suffering indignation at the faults of the church of Rome to blind and withhold their judgments from seeing that which withal they should acknowledge, concerning so much nevertheless still due to the same church, as to be held and reputed

"authority, to the end they may "catholic."]

a part of the house of God, a limb of the visible Church of BOOK v. Christ; thirdly in imposing upon the Church a burden to Ch. lxviii, 10. enter farther into men's hearts and to make a deeper search of their consciences than any law of God or reason of man enforceth; fourthly and lastly in repelling under colour of longer trial such from the mysteries of heavenly grace, as are both capable thereof by the laws of God for any thing we hear to the contrary, and should in divers considerations be cherished according to the merciful examples and precepts whereby the gospel of Christ hath taught us towards such to shew compassion, to receive them with lenity and all meekness, if any thing be shaken in them to strengthen it, not to quench with delays and jealousies that feeble smoke of conformity which seemeth to breathe from them, but to build wheresoever there is any foundation, to add perfection unto slender beginnings, and that as by other offices of piety even so by this very food of life which Christ hath left in his Church not only for preservation of strength but also for relief of weakness.

[10.] But to return to our own selves in whom the next thing severely reproved is the paucity 1 of communicants; if they require at communions frequency we wish the same, knowing how acceptable unto God such service is when multitudes cheerfully concur unto it 2; if they encourage men thereunto, we also (themselves acknowledge it3) are not utterly forgetful to do the like; if they require some public coaction 4 for remedy of that wherein by milder and softer means little good is done, they know our laws and statutes provided in that behalf, whereunto whatsoever convenient help may be added more by the wisdom of man, what cause

[&]quot;dispensation of a delegate or such "the better, and with the less suspi-

[&]quot;a great priest as hath episcopal "cion, serve the turn of their cause

¹ T. C. lib. i. p. 147. [116.] ² 2 Chron. xxx. 13; Psalm cxxii. 1. Tr. C. i. 117. al. 148. "It may be objected, that in this point the "Book of Common Prayer is not in "fault, which doth not only not for-" bid that all the Church should re-"ceive together, but also by a good
"and godly exhortation moveth
"those that be present that they "there is godly exhortation for that "reformed."

[&]quot;purpose."]
[T. C. i. 117. al. 149. "It"
(the Prayer Book) "ought to pro"vide that those which would with-"draw themselves should be by ec-"clesiastical discipline at all times, " and now also under a godly prince "by civil punishment brought to "communicate....This is the law "of God, (Numbers ix. 13.) and "should not depart.... It is true "this is now and hath been hereto"that it doth not forbid, and that "fore the practice of the churches

. BOOK v. have we given the world to think that we are not ready to Ch. lxviii. 10. hearken to it, and to use any good mean of sweet compulsion 1 to have this high and heavenly banquet largely furnished? Only we cannot so far yield as to judge it convenient that the holy desire of a competent number should be unsatisfied, because the greater part is careless and undisposed to join with them.

> Men should not (they say) be permitted a few by themselves to communicate when so many are gone away, because this sacrament is a token of our conjunction with our brethren², and therefore by communicating apart from them we make an apparent show of distraction. I ask then on which side unity is broken, whether on theirs that depart or on theirs who being left behind do communicate? First in the one it is not denied but that they may have reasonable causes of departure, and that then even they are delivered from just blame. Of such kind of causes two are allowed 3, namely danger of impairing health and necessary business requiring our presence otherwhere. And may not a third cause, which is unfitness at the present time, detain us as lawfully back as either of these two? True it is that we cannot hereby altogether excuse ourselves, for that we ought to prevent this and do not4. But

¹ Luke xiv. 23.

² [T. C. i. 116. al. 147. "The holy Sacrament of the Supper of the "Lord is not only a seal and con-"firmation of the promises of God "unto us, but also a profession of
"our conjunction as well with Christ
"our Saviour and with God, as also " (as St. Paul teacheth) a declara-"tion and profession that we are at "one with our brethren....The de-" parting therefore of the rest of the "Church from those three or four "is an open profession that they "have no communion, fellowship, "nor unity, with them that do com-"municate; and likewise of those "three or four, that they have none "with the rest . . . Therefore St. " Paul driving thereunto wisheth "that one should tarry for another." Whitg. Def. 528. "If the book "should appoint that three or four " should communicate together, and "no more; or if it did not allow

" most of the church do participate; "then were your reasoning to some "end. But seeing that it is appointed that there should not be fewer than three or four, to the "end that it might be a communion. "and have no similitude with the papistical mass, there is no cause "why you should take this pains.... "Shall none communicate because "all will not? Or shall not three or "four because the rest refuse? Or "is it lack of love towards our "neighbour, or any token thereof, "if we resort to the Lord's table "when other will not? Where learn "you that?"]

* [By Tr. C. i. 117.]

* [Id. i. 118. al. 149. "Here may rise another doubt of the words of Moses in the Book of Numbers. For seeing he maketh this exception, 'if they be clean,' it may be said that those that depart do not " feel themselves meet to receive... "that communion best wherein "For answer whereunto.....the

if we have committed a fault in not preparing our minds be- BOOK v. fore, shall we therefore aggravate the same with a worse, the Ch. lxviii. 11. crime of unworthy participation? He that abstaineth doth want for the time that grace and comfort which religious communicants have, but he that eateth and drinketh unworthily receiveth death, that which is life to others turneth in him to poison.

Notwithstanding whatsoever be the cause for which men abstain, were it reason that the fault of one part should any way abridge their benefit that are not faulty? There is in all the Scripture of God no one syllable which doth condemn communicating amongst a few when the rest are departed from them.

[11.] As for the last thing which is our imparting this sacrament privately unto the sick 1, whereas there have been of old (they grant2) two kinds of necessity wherein this sacrament might be privately administered 3, of which two

"eth of was such as men could "not easily avoid: and whereunto "they might fall sometimes by ne-"cessary duty.... which thing can-"not be alleged in those that are "to prove that ten, twenty, forty, is "now of the Church. For if they "will say, they be not meet, it may "be answered unto them that it is "their own fault; and further, if "not have fewer communicants than "they be not meet to receive the "twelve." (t. ii. 320. D.) "But "holy Sacrament of the Supper, "they are not meet to hear the "there is nothing determined in "himself by preaching the word, παρόντων μεταλαβείν ἀπὸ τοῦ εὐχα-"to the same he will not refuse to ριστηθέντος ἄρτου καὶ οΐνου καὶ ὕδα-" communicate himself by receiving τος, καὶ τοῖς οὐ παροῦσιν ἀποφέρουσι.

" of the sacraments."] ¹ [Adm. ap. Whitg. Def. 529. the scruple which some persons felt "In this book three or four are al- of breaking their fast on a day of "lowed for a fit number to receive humiliation, by participation of the "the Communion, and the priest Eucharist:) "Accepto corpore Do-"alone together with one more, or "with the sick man alone, may in "time of necessity, that is when "there is any common plague, or in "time of other visitation minister it "to the sick man, and if he require "tum fuit, manibus indignis tentas-"it it may not be denied. This is "set aperire, igne inde surgente de-"not I am sure like in effect to "territa est, ne auderet attingere."]
"a private mass: that Scripture,

"T. C. i. 146. [al. 115. "It is

"uncleanness which Moses speak- "'Drink ye all of this,' maketh not "against this, and private Commu-"nion is not against the Scriptures." Whitg. Answer, 185. "'Drink ye "all of this' may as well be applied "no sufficient number I know "there be some of the old Fathers, "as Basilius Magnus, which would " of the number of communicants

Tertull. de Orat. c. xix. (speaking of of breaking their fast on a day of "mini, et reservato, utrumque sal-"vum est: et participatio sacrificii, "et executio officii." And Cyprian, de Lapsis, p. 132. "Cum quædam "arcam suam, in qua Domini Sanc-

BOOK v. the one being erroneously imagined, and the other (they say) Ch. laviii. vr. continuing no longer in use, there remaineth unto us no necessity at all, for which that custom should be retained. The falsely surmised necessity is that whereby some have thought all such excluded from possibility of salvation as did depart this life and never were made partakers of the holy Eucharist¹. The other case of necessity was, when men, which had fallen in time of persecution, and had afterwards repented them, but were not as yet received again unto the fellowship of this communion, did at the hour of their death request it, that so they might rest with greater quietness and comfort of mind, being thereby assured of departure in unity of Christ's Church, which virtuous desire the Fathers did think it great impiety not to satisfy. This was Serapion's case of necessity. Serapion a faithful aged person and always of very upright life till fear of persecution in the end caused him to shrink back, after long sorrow for his scandalous offence and suit oftentimes made to be pardoned of the Church, fell at length into grievous sickness, and being ready to yield up the ghost was then more instant than ever before to receive the sacrament. Which sacrament was necessary in this case, not that Serapion had been deprived of everlasting life without it, but that his end was thereby to him made the more comfortable 2. And do we think, that all cases of such

> "not to be denied that this abuse "might be partaker of it: as may "is very ancient, and was in Justin "Martyr's time, in Tertullian and "Cyprian's time, even as also there "before alleged: which is the false "were other abuses . . . First of all "in the primitive Church the dis-"cipline of the Church was so se-"vere, and so extreme, that if any "one who professed the truth and "were of the body of the Church "did through infirmity deny the "of the Lord unto them, lest they "truth, and joined himself unto the "should want their voyage victual "idolatrous service, although he "(as they termed it)."] "repenting came again unto the "Church, yet was he not received "to the communion of the Lord's "Supper any more. And yet lying "supper any more. And yet lying "in contrast the state of the last they termined it?.] I on this point so far as regards Infant Communion see especially Waterland's Inquiry concerning that practice. Works, ix. 473, &c. (vol. "Supper any more. And yet lying in extremity of sickness, and ready to depart this life, if they did re"1.5 Dionys. Alex. ap. Euseb."

"appear by the story of Serapion. "Another cause was that which was "opinion they had conceived that "all those were condemned that re-"ceived not the Supper of the Lord. "And therefore when catechumens "or young children fell sick danger-"ously they ministered the Supper

" quire the Communion in token H. E. vi. 44. Σαραπίων τις ην παρ' "that the Church had forgiven the ήμίν πιστός γέρων, αμέμπτως μέν "fault, they granted that he τον πολύν διαβιώσας χρόνον, έν δέ necessity are clean vanished? Suppose that some have by BOOK v. mis-persuasion lived in schism, withdrawn themselves from Ch. lxviii. 12. holy and public assemblies, hated the prayers, and loathed the sacraments of the Church, falsely presuming them to be fraught with impious and Antichristian corruptions, which error the God of mercy and truth opening at the length their eyes to see, they do not only repent them of the evil which they have done but also in token thereof desire to receive comfort by that whereunto they have offered disgrace, (which may be the case of many poor seduced souls even at this day), God forbid we should think that the Church doth sin in permitting the wounds of such to be suppled 1 with that oil which this gracious Sacrament doth yield, and their bruised minds not only need but beg.

[12.] There is nothing which the soul of man doth desire in that last hour so much as comfort against the natural terrors of death and other scruples of conscience which commonly do then most trouble and perplex the weak, towards whom the very law of God doth exact at our hands all the helps that Christian lenity and indulgence can afford. Our general consolation departing this life is the hope of that glorious² and blessed resurrection which the Apostle St. Paul 3 nameth ¿ξανάστασιν 4, to note that as all men shall

έδειτο, και ούδεις προσείχεν αὐτῷ, καὶ γὰρ ἐτεθύκει, ἐν νόσω δὲ γενό- τερος ελθεῖν οὐκ ήδυνήθη, σὺ δὲ ποίη-μενος, τριῶν ἐξῆς ἡμερῶν ἄφωνος καὶ σον ταχέως τὸ προσταχθὲν, καὶ ἀπάλαναίσθητος διετέλεσε βραχύ δε άνα- λαττέ με απέβρεξεν τε ό παις, και σφήλας τη τετάρτη, προσεκαλέσατο αμα τε ένέχεε τῷ στόματι καὶ μικρὸν τὸν θυγατριδοῦν καὶ, μέχρι τίνος, ἐκεῖνος καταβροχθίσας, εὐθέως ἀπέφησὶν, ὡ τέκνον, με κατέχετε; δέο- δωκε τὸ πνεῦμα. ᾿Αρ' οὐκ ἐναργῶς μαι, σπεύσατε, καί με θαττον άπο- διετηρήθη καὶ παρέμεινεν εως λυθή, λύσατε, τῶν πρεσβυτέρων μοί τινα καὶ τῆς ἀμαρτίας ἐξαλειφθείσης, ἐπὶ κάλεσον καὶ ταῦτα εἰπὼν, πάλιν ἦν πολλοῖς οῖς ἔπραξε καλοῖς ὁμολογηάφωνος. έδραμεν ό παίς επί τον πρεσβύτερον νὺξ δὲ ἢν κἀκείνος ἠσθένει ἀφικέσθαι μὲν οὖν οὖκ ἐδυνήθη ἐντοαφικέσθαι μὲν οὖν οὖν ἐδυνήθη' ἐντο-λῆς δὲ ὑπ' ἐμοῦ δεδομένης, τοὺς ἀπαλ-λαττομένους τοῦ βίου, εἰ δέοιντο, καὶ μάλιστα εἰ καὶ πρότερον ἰκετεύσαντες τύχοιεν, ἀφίεσθαι, ἵν' εὐέλπιδες ἀπαλ-Μάδδιντας ἐΝ Νου $\frac{1}{2}$ τον \frac παιτονται, βραχὺ τῆς εὐχαριστίας Απαίτωνται, βραχὺ τῆς εὐχαριστίας Απαίτωνται, βραχὺ τῆς εὐχαριστίας Απάδαωκ τῷ παιδαρίῳ, ἀποβρέξαι κερινέσας, καὶ τῷ πρεσβύτη κατὰ τοῦ στόματος ἐπιστάξαι ἐπινῆκεν ὁ παῖς τόματος ἐπιστάξαι ἐπινῆκεν ὁ παῖς τόμος ἐγγύς τε γενομένου, πρὶν εἰσ-Τheophyl. [in Phil. iii. 11. ἐξανά-

τῷ πειρασμῷ πεσών οὖτος πολλάκις ελθείν, ἀνενέγκας πάλιν ὁ Σαραπίων, Ήκες, έφη, τέκνον; καὶ ὁ μὲν πρεσβύθηναι δυνηθη;]
¹ [So Bodl. MS. A. 1616, 1662, K.