THE CATHOLIKE EPISTLE OF S. IAMES THE APOSTLE.

THE ARGVMENT OF THE EPISTLE OF S. IAMES

This Epiftle (as the reft following) is directed fpecially, as S. Augustin faith, against the errour of only faith, which some held at that time also, by misconstruing S. Paules words. Yea not only that, but many other errours (which then also were annexed vnto it, as they are now) doth this Apostle here touch expresly.

He faith therfore, that not only faith, but also good workes are neceffarie: that not only faith, but also good workes doe iustifie: that they are acts of Religion, or feruice and worship of God: that to keep al the commandements of God, and fo to abstaine from al mortal finne, is not impossible, but necessarie: that God is not author of finne, no not fo much as of tentation to finne: that we must stay our selves from sinning, with seare of our death, of the Iudgement, of hel: and ftirre our felues to doing of good, with our reward that we shal have for it in heauen. These points of the Catholike faith he commendeth earneftly vnto vs, inueighing vehemently against them that teach the contrarie errours. Howbeit he doth withal admonish not to neglect fuch, but to feeke their conversion, shewing them how meritorious a thing that is. Thus then he exhorteth generally to al good workes, & dehorteth from al finne. But yet also namely to certaine, and from certaine: as, from acception of persons, from detraction and rash judging, from concupifcence and loue of this world, from fwearing: and to praier, to almes, to humilitie, confession and penance: but most comiously to patience in perfecution.

Now, who this Iames was: It is not he, whose feast the Church keepeth the 25. of Iulie, which was S. Iohns brother, and whose martyrdom we haue *Act. 12.* but he, whom the Church worshippeth the first of Maie, who is called *Frater Domini*, our *Lordes brother*, and brother Which Iames wrot this Epiftle.

to Iude, and which was the first Bishop of Hierusalem, of whom we read, Act. 15. and 21. and also Gal. 2. of whose wonderful austeritie and puritie of life, the Ecclesiaftical stories doe report. Euseb. li. 2. c. 22. Hiero. in Catalogo.

Therfore as the old High-Prieft had power and charge ouer the Iewes, not only in Hierufalem and Iurie, but also dispersed in other Countries (as we vnderstand Act. 9. v. 1. & 2.) so S. Iames likewise, being Bishop of Hierusalem, and hauing care not only of those Iewes with whom he was resident there in Iurie, but of all the rest also, writeth this Epistle, To the twelve Tribes that are in dispersion. And in them, to all Christians vniuersally dispersed through the world.

Ia. 1.

The Protestats abhorre the word *Catholike*.

The word Catholike, though in the title of this Epiftle & the reft following (called, the Catholike Epiftles) it be not wholy in the fame fenfe as it is in the Creed, yet the Protestants fo feare and abhorre the word altogether, that in some of their Bibles they leaue it cleane out, although it be in the Greek, and in some they had rather translate ridiculously thus, The General Epiftle, &c. whereas these are famously known and specified in antiquitie by the name of Catholike Epistles, for that they are written to the whole Church, not to any peculiar people or person, as S. Paules are.

Eufeb. li. 2. hift. c. 22.

Chapter 01

We have to reioyce in perfecution (but if we be patient, and withal abfteine from al mortal finne) 9. confidering how we shal be exalted and crowned for it, when the perfecutour (who enricheth himfelf with our fpoiles) shal fade away. 13. But if any be tempted to fal, or to any other euil, let him not fay, God is the Authour of it, who is the Authour of al good only. 19. Such points of the Cath. faith we must be content to learne without

contradiction & anger, and to doe accordingly. 26. Because otherwise we may talke of Religion, but indeed it is no Religion.

ames the feruant of God and of our Lord IESVS Chrift, to the twelue Tribes that are in difperfion, greeting.

2 Efteeme it, my Brethren, al ioy, when you fhal fal Ro. 5, 3. into divers tentations: 3 knowing that the probation of your faith worketh patience. 4 And let patience have a perfect worke: that you may be perfect & entire, failing in nothing. 5 But if any of you lacke wifedom, let him aske of God who giveth to al men aboundantly, and vpbraideth not: and it fhal be given him. 6 But let him Mr. 11, 24. ♣aske in faith nothing doubting. For he that doubteth, is like to a wave of the fea, which is moved & caried about by the wind. 7 Therfore let not that man thinke that he fhal receive any thing of our Lord. 8 A man double of mind is inconftant in al his waies.

⁹ But let the humble Brother glorie, in his exaltation: ¹⁰ and the rich, in humilitie, because as the floure of graffe shal he passe: ¹¹ for the sunne rose with heat, & parched the graffe, and the floure of it fel away, and the beautie of the shape therof perished: fo the rich man also shal wither in his waies. ¹² Blessed is the man that suffereth tentation: for when he hath been proued, he shall receive the crowne of life, which God hath promised to them that love him.

13 Let no man when he is tempted, fay that he is tempted of God. For God is not a tepter of euils, and he tepteth no man. 14 But a)euery one is tempted of his owne concupifcence abftracted and allured. 15 Afterward concupifcence when it hath conceiued, bringeth forth finne. But finne when it is confummate, ingendreth death.

Pf. 102, 15. Eccl. 14, 18. Ef. 4, 6. 1. Pet. 1, 24.

Iob. 5, 17.

^a The ground of tentation to finne, is our cõcupifcence, and not God.

¹⁶ Doe not erre therfore, my deareft Brethren. ¹⁷ Euery beft guift, and euery perfect guift, is from aboue, defcending from the Father of lights, with whom is no transmutation, nor shadowing of alteration. ¹⁸ Voluntarily hath he begotten vs by the word of truth, that we may be some beginning of his creature. ¹⁹ You know, my dearest Brethren, And let euery man be swift to heare, but slow to speake, and slow to anger. ²⁰ For the anger of man worketh not the justice of God.

Prou. 17, 27.

²¹ For the which thing cafting away al vncleannesse and aboundance of malice, in meekneffe receive the engraffed word, which is able to faue your foules. ²² But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceauing your felues. 23 For if a man be a hearer of the word, and not a doer, he fhal be compared to a man beholding the countenance of his nativitie in a glaffe. ²⁴ For he confidered himfelf, and went his way, and by and by forgat what an one he was. ²⁵ But he that hath looked in • the law of perfect libertie, and hath remained in it, not made a forgetful hearer, but a doer of the worke; this man fhal be a) bleffed in his deed. 26 And if any man thinke himfelf to be religious, not bridling his tongue, but feducing his hart, this man's religion is vaine. 27 Religion cleane and vnfpotted with God and the Father, is this, to vifit pupilles and widowes in their tribulation: and to keep himfelf vnfpotted from this world.

Mat. 7, 21. Ro. 2, 13.

Annotations

What faith is required in praier.

6 Aske in faith nothing doubting.) The Protestants would proue by this, that no man ought to pray without affurance that he shal obtaine that which he asketh. Where the Apostle meaneth nothing els, but that the asker of lawful things may not either mistrust God's power & hability, or be in diffidence and despaire of his mercie: but that our doubt be only in our owne vnworthinesse or vndue asking.

God is not Authour of euil.

13 Let no man fay that he is tempted of God.) We fee by this, that when the Scriptures (as in the *Pater nofter* and other places) feeme to fay, that God doth fometimes tempt vs, or lead vs

^a Beatitude or faluation confifteth in wel-working.

into tentation; they meane not, that God is any waies the Authour, caufer, or mouer of any man to finne, but only by permiffion, and because by his gratious power he keepeth not the offender from tentations. Therfore the blasphemie of Heretikes, making God the Authour of finne, is intolerable. See S. August. fer. 9. de divers. c. 9.

13 God is not a tempter of euils.) The Protestants as much as they may, to diminish the force of the Apostles conclusion against such as attribute euil tentations to God (for other tentations God doth send to trie mens patience and proue their saith) take and translate the word passiuely, in this sense, that God is not tempted by our euils. Where more consonantly to the letter & circumstance of the words before & after, & as agreably to the Greeke, it should be taken actively as it is in the Latin, that God is no tempter to euil. For being taken passiuely, there is no

Partial & wilful translation.

ἀπείραστός κακῶν

coherence of fense to the other words of the Apostle.

15 Concupiscence when it hath conceiued.) Concupiscence (we see here) of it-self is not sinne, as Heretikes salfely teach: but when by any consent of the mind we doe obey or yeald to it, then is sinne ingendred and formed in vs.

Not one fine

Concupifcence of it-felf no finne.

15 Sinne confummate ingendreth death.) Here we fee that not al finne nor al confent vnto concupifcence is mortal or damnable, but when it is confummate, that is, when the confent of mans mind fully and perfectly yealdeth to the committing or liking of the acte or motion whereunto concupifcence moueth or inciteth vs.

Not euery finne mortal.

25 The law of perfect libertie.) The law of the Ghofpel and grace of Chrift, is called the law of libertie, in refpect of the yoke and burden of the old carnal ceremonies, and because Chrift hath by his bloud of the new Testament deliuered al that obey him, from the seruitude of sinne & the Diuel. But not as the Libertines and other Heretikes of this time would haue it, that in the new Testament euery man may follow his owne liking & conscience, and may choose whether he wil be vnder the lawes & obedience of Spiritual or Temporal Rulers, or no.

What is the law of libertie in the New Testament.

27 Religion cleane.) True religion ftandeth not only in talking of the Scriptures, or only faith, or Chriftes iuftice: but in puritie of life, and good workes, fpecially of charitie and mercie done by the grace of Chrift. This is the Apoftolical doctrine, and farre from the Heretical vanitie of this time.

Good workes a part of mans iuftice.

Chapter 02

Against acception of persons. 10. From al and euery sinne we must absteine, having in al our words and deeds, the Iudgement before our eyes: wherin workes of mercie

shal be required of vs, 14. and only faith, shal not auaile vs. 18. And that the Catholike by his workes sheweth that he hath faith: whereas the Heretike hath no more faith then the Diuel, talke he of faith neuer fo much, and of iuftification thereby only, by the example of Abraham Ro. 4. For Abraham indeed was iuftified by workes alfo, 25. and likewife Rahab.

y Brethren, Haue not the faith of our Lord IESVS Chrift of glorie in acception of perfons. ² For if there fhal enter into your affemblie a man hauing a golden ring in goodly apparel, and there fhal enter in a poore man in homely attire, ³ and you have respect to him that is clothed with the goodly apparel, and fhal fay to him, Sit thou here wel: but fay to the poore man, Stand thou there, or fit vnder my foot-ftoole: 4 doe you not judge with your felues, and are become judges of vniuft cogitations? ⁵ Heare, my dearest Brethren: hath not God chosen the poore in this world, rich in faith, and heires of the Kingdom which God hath promifed to them that loue him? ⁶ But you have diffeonoured the poore man. Doe not the rich oppreffe you by might: and thefelues draw you to iudgemets? 7 Doe not they blafpheme the good name that is inuocated vpon you? 8 If not-withftanding you fulfil the roial law according to the Scriptures, shalt loue thy neighbour as thy felf, you doe wel: 9 But if you accept perfos, you worke finne, reproued of the Law as transgreffours. ¹⁰ And whosoeuer shal keep the whole Law, but offedeth in one, is made guilty of al. 11 For he that faid, Thou fhalt not commit aduoutrie, faid alfo, Thou fhalt not kil. And if thou doe not commit aduoutrie, but fhal kil; thou art made a transgressour of the Law. 12 So fpeake ye, and fo doe, as beginning to be iudged by the law of libertie. 13 For iudgement without mercie to him that hath not done mercie. And mercie exalteth it-felf aboue iudgement.

¹⁴ What fhal it profit, my Brethren, if a man fay he hath faith, but hath not workes? Shal faith be able

Leu. 19, 15. Deu. 1, 16. Pro. 24, 23. Eccl. 42, 1.

Leu. 19, 18. Mat. 22, 39. Rom. 13.

Leu. 19, 37. Deu. 1, 18

κατακαυχᾶται

ŕ

Io. 3. 17.

it profit? 17 So faith alfo, if it haue not workes, is dead in it-felf. 18 But fome man faith, Thou haft faith, and I haue workes: fhew me thy faith without workes; and

to faue him? ¹⁵ And if a Brother or Sifter be naked,

and lacke daily food, ¹⁶ and one of you fay to them, Goe in peace, be warmed and filled; but you give them not the things that are neceffarie for the bodie; what fhal

dead?

I wil fhew thee by workes my faith. ¹⁹ Thou beleeueft that there is one God. Thou doeft wel: the Diuels also beleeue and tremble. ²⁰ But wilt thou know, ^{a)}ô vaine man, that faith without workes is 'idle?' ²¹ Abraham

our Father was he not iuftified by workes offering Ifaac his fonne vpon the altar? ²² Seeft thou that ⁴ faith did worke with his workes: and by the workes the faith was confummate? ²³ And the Scripture was fulfilled, faying,

Gen. 15, 6. Ro. 4, 3. Gal. 3.

Gn. 22, 10.

Iof. 2, 1. 18. and 6, 22.

Abraham beleeued God, and it was reputed him to iuftice, and he was called *the freind of God. ²⁴ Doe you fee that by workes a man is iuftified; & *not by faith only? ²⁵ And in like manner alfo *Rahab the harlot, was not fhe iuftified by workes, receiuing the meffengers, and putting them forth another way? ²⁶ For euen as the bodie without the fpirit is dead: fo alfo *faith without workes is dead.

Annotations

1 In acception of perfons.) The Apoftle meaneth not, as the Anabaptifts and other feditious perfons fometime gather hereof that there should be no difference in Common-weales or affemblies betwixt the Magistrate and the subject, the free man and the bond, the rich and the poore, betwixt one degree & another: for God and nature, and the neceffitie of man, haue made such distinctions, and men are bound to observe them. But it is meant only, or specially, that in spiritual guists and graces, in matters of faith, Sacraments, and saluation, and bestowing the spiritual functions and charge of soule, we must esteem of a poore man or a bond man, no lesse then of the rich man and the free, then of the Prince or the Gentleman: because as Christ himself calleth al, and endoweth al forts with his graces; so in such and the like things we must not be partial, but

Scripture abused by the Anabaptistes to make no distinction of persons.

What the Apoftle meaneth by acception of perfons.

^a He fpeaketh to al heretikes that fay, faith only without workes doth iuftifie, calling them vaine men, and comparing them to Diuels.

Epistle of S. Iames

count al to be fellowes, Brethren, and members of one head. And therfore the Apostle faith with a special clause, That we should not hold or haue the Christian faith with or in such differences or partialities.

How he that offendeth in one commandement, is guilty of al.

10 Is made guilty of al.) He meaneth not, that who foeuer is a theefe, is also a murderer, or that euery murderer is an aduouterer alfo: or that al finnes be equal, according to the Stoikes & the Herefie of Iouinian: much leffe, that he shal have as great damnation that transgresses one commandement, as if he had offended against euery precept: but the sense is, that it shal not auaile him to faluation, that he feemeth to have kept certaine & not broken al the commandements: feeing that any one tranfgreffion of the law, proueth that he hath not observed the whole, which he was bound to doe, fo farre as is required, & as is possible for a man in this life. S. Augustin disputing profoundly in his 29. Epiftle to S. Hierom, of this place of S. Iames, expoundeth it thus: that he which offendeth in one, that is, againft the general and great commandement of loue or charitie (because it is in a manner al, as being the fumme of al, the plenitude of the law, and the perfection of the reft) breaketh after a fort and transgresseth al, no finne being committed but either against the loue of God, or of our neighbour.

Workes of mercie exceeding grateful to God.

13 Iudgement without mercie.) Nothing giueth more hope of mercie in the next life, then the workes of almes, charitie, and mercie, done to our neighbours in this life. Neither shal any be vfed with extreme rigour in the next world, but fuch as vfed not mercie in this world. Auguft. de pec. merit. li. 2. c. 3. Which is true, not only in refpect of the iudgement to euerlafting damnation, but also of the temporal chaftisement in Purgatorie, as S. Augustin fignifieth, declaring that our venial finnes be washed away in this world with daily workes of mercie, which otherwise should be chaftised in the next. See epift. 29. asoresaid in fine, and li. 21. de Ciu. Dei. c. 17. in fine.

The proud and impudent dealing of the heretikes againft this Epiftle, because it is so plaine againft only faith.

14 What shal it profit, if a man fay he hath faith?) This whole paffage of the Apoftle is fo cleere againft iuftification or faluation by only faith, damnably defended by the Protestants, & fo euident for the neceffitie, merit, & concurrence of good workes, that their first Authour Luther and such as exactly follow him, boldly (after the manner of Heretikes) when they can make no shift nor false glosse for the text, deny the booke to be Canonical Scripture. But Caluin and his companions disagreeing with their Maisters, confesse it to be holy Scripture. But their shiftes & fond glosses for answer of so plaine places, be as impudent as the denying of the Epistle was in the other: who would neuer haue denied the booke, thereby to shew themselues Heretikes, if they had thought those vulgar euasions that the Zuinglians and Caluinists doe vse (wherof they were not ignorant) could haue ferued. In both forts the Christian Reader may see, that all the

Heretikes vanting of expresse Scriptures & the word of God, is no more but to delude the world. Whereas indeed, be the Scriptures neuer so plaine against them, they must either be wrested to found as they say, or els they must be no Scriptures at al. And to see Luther, Caluin, Beza, & their fellowes, sit as it were in iudgement of the Scriptures to allow or disallow at their pleasures, it is the most notorious example of Heretical pride & miserie that can be. See their presaces and censures vpon this Canonical Epistle, the Apocalypse, the Machabees, and other.

Only faith, an old herefie.

21 Abraham, was he not inftified by workes?) It is much to be noted that S. Augustin in his booke de fide & operibus c. 14. writeth, that the herefie of only faith iuftifying or fauing, was an old Herefie euen in the Apostles time, gathered by the false interpretation of fome of S. Paules profound difputation in the Epiftle to the Romans, wherin he commended to highly the faith in Chrift, that they thought good workes were not available: adding further, that the other three Apoftles, Iames, Iohn, and Iude, did of purpose write so much of good workes, to correct the said errour of only faith, gathered by the mifconftruction of S. Paules words. Yea when S. Peter (Ep. 2. c. 3.) warneth the faithful that many things be hard in S. Paules writings, and of light vnlearned men miftaken to their perdition; the faid S. Augustin affirmeth, that he meant of his disputation concerning faith, which so many Heretikes did miftake to condemne good workes. And in the preface of his commentarie vpon the 81. Pfalme, he warneth al men, that this deduction vpon S. Paules speach, Abraham was instified by faith, therfore workes be not necessarie to faluation: is the right way to the gulfe of Hel and damnation.

S. Iames & the reft inculcate good workes againft the errour of only faith falfely gathered of S. Paules words.

And laftly (which is in it-felf very plaine) that we may fee this Apoftle did purpofely thus commend vnto vs the neceffitie of good workes, & the inanity and infufficiencie of only faith, to correct the errour of fuch as mifconftrued S. Paules words for the fame: the faid holy Doctour noteth that of purpofe he tooke the very fame example of Abraham, whom S. Paul faid to be inftified by faith, and declareth that he was inftified by good workes, specifying the good worke for which he was inftified and bleffed of God, to wit, his obedience and immolation of his only sonne. But how S. Paul faith that Abraham was instified by faith, see the Annotations vpon that place, Ro. 4. v. 1.

S. Augustines whole disputation in this point very notable, & directly against only faith.

22 Faith did worke with.) Some Heretikes hold, that good workes are pernicious to faluation and iuftification: other, that though they be not hurtful but required, yet they be no causes or workes of faluation, much lesse meritorious, but are as effects and fruits issuing necessarily out of faith. Both which fictions, falshoods, & slights from the plaine truth of God's word, are restuted by these words, when the Apostle faith, That faith worketh together with good workes: making faith to be a coadiutour or cooperatour with workes, and so both ioyntly concurring as causes

Herefies againft good workes.

Workes concurre with faith as caufe of iuftification.

Li. 83. q. q. 76.

loco citato.

Epistle of S. Iames

and workers of iuftification: yea afterward he maketh workes the more principal cause, when he resembleth faith to the body, and workes to the spirit or life of man.

Workes make vs iuft indeed before God.

24 Not by faith only.) This proposition or speach is directly

The Protestats fay by faith only: S. Iames cleane contrarie,
Not by faith only.

Gal. 5.

The manifold meaning of certaine Fathers, when they fay, Only faith.

opposit or contradictorie to that which the Heretikes hold. For the Apostle faith, Man is instified by good workes, and not by faith only. But the Heretikes fay, Man is not inftified by good workes, but by faith only. Neither can they pretend that there is the like contradiction or contrarietie betwixt S. Iames speaches and S. Paules. For though S. Paule fay, man is instified by faith, yet he neuer faith, by faith only, nor euer meaneth by that faith which is alone, but alwaies by that faith which worketh by charitie, as he expoundeth himfelf. Though concerning workes also, there is a difference betwixt the first instification, whereof S. Paul specially fpeaketh: and the fecond iuftification, whereof S. Iames doth more fpecially treate. Of which thing a)els-where there is enough faid. The Fathers indeed vfe fometimes this exclusive, fola, only, but in farre other fense then the Protestants. For some of them thereby exclude only the workes of Moyfes law, againft the Iewes: fome, the workes of nature and moral vertues without the grace or knowledge of Chrift, against the Gentils: some, the necessitie of external good workes where the parties lacke time and meanes to doe them, as in the cafe of the penitent theefe: fome, the false opinions, fectes, and religions contrarie to the Catholike faith, againft Heretikes and miscreants: some exclude reason, sense, and arguing in matters of faith and myfterie, againft fuch as wil beleeu nothing but that they fee or vinderstand: some the merit of workes done in finne before the first iustification: some, the arrogant Pharifaical vanting of man's owne proper workes and iuftice, againft fuch as referre not their actions and good deeds to God's grace. To thefe purposes the holy Doctours fay fometimes, that only faith faueth and ferueth: but neuer (as Protestants would have it) to exclude from iuftification and faluation, the cooperation of mans free-wil, dispositions and preparations of our harts by praiers, penance, and facramets, the vertues of hope and charitie, the purpose of welworking and of the observation of God's commandements: much leffe, the workes and merits of the children of God, proceeding of

^a See the annot. vpon the epiftle to the Romans c. 2. v. 11.

grace and charitie, after they be inftified & are now in his fauour: which are not only dispositions and preparations to instice, but the meritorious caufe of greater iuftice, and of faluation.

25 Rahab.) This Apoftle alleageth the good workes of Rahab by which she was infified, and S. Paul (11. Heb.) faith she was iuftified by faith. Which are not contrarie one to the other: for both is true that she was faued by faith, as one faith, and that she was faued by her workes, as the other faith. But it were vntruely faid, that she was faued either by only faith as the Heretikes fay; or by only good workes, as no Catholike man euer faid. But because some Iewes and Gentil Philosophers did affirme; they, that they should be faued by the workes of Moyfes law; thefe, by their moral workes: therfore S. Paul to the Romans diffuted fpecially against both, prouing that no workes done without or before the faith of Chrift, can ferue to inftification or faluation.

S. Paul nameth faith & S. Iames workes, caufes of iuftification: but neither the one. faith only, nor the other, workes only.

26 Faith without workes is dead.) S. Iames (as the Protestants Faith without feine) faith that faith without good workes is no faith, and that therfore it iustifieth not, because it is no faith; for he faith that it is dead without workes as the bodie is dead without the foule, and therfore being dead hath no activity or efficacie to inftifie or faue. But it is a great difference, to fav that the body is dead, and to fay that it is no body: even fo it is the like difference, to fay that faith without workes is dead, and to fav that faith without workes is no faith. And if a dead body be not-withftanding a true body, then according to S. Iames comparison here, a dead faith is not-withftanding a true faith, but yet not available to iuftification, because it is dead, that is, because it is only faith without good workes.

workes is a true faith, but not auailable: as the body without the fpirit is a true body, though it be dead.

And therfore it is a great impudencie in Heretikes, and a hard shift, to fay that the faith of which the Apoftle disputeth al this while, is no true or properly called faith at al. It is the fame faith that S. Paul defined and commended in al the 11. chapter to the Hebrewes, and the fame which is called the Catholike faith, and the fame which being formed & made aliue by charitie, iuftifieth. Mary true it is, that it is not that special faith which the Heretikes feine only to iuftifie, to wit, when a man doth firmely belieue as an article of his faith, that himfelf shal be faued. This special faith it is not whereof the Apoftle here speaketh. For neither he, nor S. Paul, nor any other facred Writer in al the holy Scriptures euer fpeake or knew of any fuch forged faith.

What faith the Apoftle fpeaketh of: & that he knew no fpecial faith.

Chapter 03

Against proud Maisters and Authours of Sects. 5. Of the manifold finnes of the vnbridled tongue. 12. The difference betwixt proud, contentious, and worldly wifedom,

and that wifedom which is heauenly, peaceable, modeft, and fo-forth.

e yee not *many Maifters, my Brethren, knowing that you receive the greater judgement. ² For in many things we offend al. man offend not in word; this is a perfect man. He is able also with bridle to turne about the whole body. ³ And if we put bits into the mouths of horses that they may obey vs, we turne about all their body also. 4 And behold, the fhips, whereas they be great, and are driven of ftrong winds: yet are they turned about with a litle fterne whither the violence of the directour wil. ⁵ So the tongue also is certes a litle member, and vanteth great things. Behold how 'much' fire what a great wood it kindleth? ⁶ And the tongue, is fire, a whole world of iniquitie. The tongue is fet amog our mebers, which defileth the whole bodie, and inflameth the wheele of our natiuitie, inflamed of hel. ⁷ For al nature of beafts & foules & ferpets & of the reft is tamed & hath been tamed by the nature of mã. 8 But the tongue no man can tame, an vnquiet euil, ful of deadly poifon. 9 By it we bleffe God and the Father; & by it we curfe men which are made after the fimilitude of God. 10 Out of the felffame mouth proceedeth bleffing & curfing. Thefe things must not be so done, my Brethren. 11 Doth the sountaine give forth out of one hole fweet and foure water? ¹² Can, my Brethren, the figge-tree yeald grapes, or the vine, figges? So neither 'can the falt water yeald fweet.'

¹³ Who is wife and hath knowledge among you? Let him fhew by good converfation his working in mildneffe of wifedom. ¹⁴ But if you have bitter zeale, and there be contentions in your harts; glorie not and be not liers againft the truth. ¹⁵ For this is not ^{a)}wifedom defcending from aboue: but earthly, fenfual, diuelish. ¹⁶ For where zeale and contention is, there is inconftancie, and every

Mt. 23, 8,

Eccl. 14, 1. 19, 16.

μεγαλαυχεῖ litle

can it yeald falt & fweet water.

^a The difference betwixt the humane wifedom, fpecially of heretikes; & the wifedom of the Catholike Church & her children.

peruerfe worke. ¹⁷ But the wifedom that is from aboue, firft certes is chaft; then peaceable, modeft, fuafible, confenting to the good, ful of mercie and good fruits not iudging, without fimulation. ¹⁸ And the fruit of iuftice, in peace is fowed, to them that make peace.

Annotations

1 Many Maifters.) He meaneth principally Sect-maifters that make themfelues feueral Ring-leaders in fundry forts of new deuifed doctrines: euery one arrogating to himfelf to be Maifter, and none fo humble as to be a fcholer, either to God's Church and true Paftours, or to other guides and Authours of the faid Sects. So did Zuinglius difdaine to be Luthers fcholer, and Caluin to be the follower of Zuinglius.

Many Maifters are many proud Sect-Maifters.

Chapter 04

1. Io. 2, 15

Prou. 3, 35.

1. Pet. 5, 5.

By concupifcence and loue of this world, we are made enemies to God: but we should rather humble vs to him, punishing our felues for our finnes. 11. Againft detraction & rash iudging. 13. To remember alwaies the vncertaintie of our life.

rom whence are warres and contentions among you? Are they not hereof? of you cocupifcences which warre in your members? ² You couet, & haue not. You kil, and enuie; and can not obtaine. You contend and warre: and you haue not: because you aske not. ³ You aske, and receive not: because you aske amisse: that you may cosume it on your concupiscences. ⁴ Aduouterers, know you not that the freindship of this world, is the enemie of God? Whosoeuer thersore wil be a freind of this world, is made an enemie of God. ⁵ Or doe you thinke that the Scripture faith in vaine: To enuie doth the spirit couet which dwelleth in you? ⁶ And ^a giueth greater grace. For the which cause it faith, God resisteth the proud and giueth grace to the humble.

^a The boldnes of Heretikes adding here the word, *Scripture*, to the text thus, *And the Scripture giveth greater grace*.

⁷ Be fubiect therfore to God, but refift the Diuel, and he wil fly from you. ⁸ a)Approch to God, & he wil approch to you. Cleanfe your hands, ye finners: and ⁴ purifie your harts, ye double of mind. ⁹ Be miferable, and mourne, & weep: let your laughter be turned into mourning; and ioy, into forrow. ¹⁰ Be humbled in the fight of our Lord, and he wil exalt you. ¹¹ b) Detract not one from another, my Brethren. He that detracteth from his Brother, or he that iudgeth his Brother, detracteth from the Law, and iudgeth the Law. But if thou iudge the Law, thou art not a doer of the Law, but a Iudge. ¹² For there is one Law-maker, and Iudge that can deftroy and deliuer. ¹³ But thou, what art thou that iudgeft thy neighbour?

 Pet. 5, 6.
 Μὴ καταλαλεῖτε ἀλλήλων

Ro. 14, 4.

Behold now you that fay, To day or to morrow we wil goe into that citie, and there certes wil fpend a yeare, and wil traffike, and make our gaine (14 who are ignorant what fhal be on the morrow. For what is your life? It is a vapour appearing for a litle while, and afterward it fhal vanish away) 15 for that you fhould fay, c) If our Lord wil: and, if we fhal liue, we wil doe this or that. 16 But now you reioyce in your arrogancies. Al fuch reioycing is wicked. 17 To one therfore knowing to doe good, and not doing it: to him it is finne.

ANNOTATIONS

Man's working with God's grace, is no derogation thereunto. 8 Purifie your harts.) Man (we fee here) maketh himfelf cleane and purgeth his owne hart. Which derogateth nothing to the grace of God being the principal caufe of the fame. Yet Protestants thinke we derogate from Christ's Passion, when we attribute such effects to our owne workes, or to other secundarie helps and causes.

^a Free-wil and man's owne endeauour neceffarie in comming to God.

^b He forbiddeth detractiò, euil fpeaking, flandering.

^c Al promifes and purpofes of our worldly affaires are to be made vnder condition of God's good liking & pleafure: and it be cometh a Chriftia man to have vfually this forme of fpeach in that cafe, If God wil, if God otherwife difpofe not.

Chapter 05

By the damnation to come vpon the vnmerciful rich, he exhorteth the perfecuted to patience, & by their owne reward, and by examples. 12. Not to fweare at al in common talke. 13. In affliction, to pray: in profperitie, to fing: in ficknes, to cal for the Priefts, and that they pray ouer them & anoile them with oile: and that the ficke perfons confesse their finnes. 19. Finally, how meritorious it is to conuert the erring vnto the Catholike faith, or the finner to amendement of life.

oe to now ye rich men, weep, a)howling in your miferies which fhal come to you. ² Your riches are corrupt; and your garments are eaten of moths. ³ Your gold and filuer is rufted; and their ruft fhal be for a testimonie to you, and shal eate your flesh as fire. You have stored to your selues wrath in the last daies.

⁴ Behold the hire of the worke-men that haue reaped your fields, which is defrauded of you, crieth: and their crie hath entred into the eares of the Lord of Sabboth.

⁵ You haue made merie vpon the earth: and in riotoufnes you haue nourifhed your harts in the day of flaughter.

⁶ You haue 'prefented' and flaine the iuft one: and he refifted you not.

 ${\rm cond}\tilde{\rm e}{\rm ned}$

⁷ Be patient therfore, Brethren, vntil the comming of our Lord. Behold, the husband-man expecteth the pretious fruit of the earth: patiently bearing til he receiue ^{b)}the timely and the lateward. ⁸ Be you also patient, and confirme your harts: because the comming of our Lord 'wil approch.' ⁹ Grudge not, Brethren, one against another: that you be not iudged. Behold, the iudge standeth before the gate. ¹⁰ Take an example, Brethren, of labour and patience, the Prophets, which spake in the name of our Lord. ¹¹ Behold we account

is at hand.

exitus mali

^a A feareful description of the miseries that shal befal in the next life to the vnmerciful couetous men.

b He meaneth either fruit or raine.

them bleffed that haue fuffered. The fufferance of Iob you haue heard, and the end of our Lord you haue feen, because our Lord is merciful and pitieful. ¹² But before al things, my Brethren, *Iweare not, neither by heauen, nor by earth; nor other othe whatsoeuer. But let your talke be, yea, yea: no, no: that you fal not vnder iudgement.

Mt. 5, 34.

13 Is any of you in heauineffe? let him pray. Is he of cheereful hart? let him fing. 14 Is any man ficke among you? Alet him bring in the Priefts of the Church, and let them pray ouer him, Anoiling him with oile in the name of our Lord. 15 And Athe praier of faith Afhal faue the ficke: and our Lord Afhal lift him vp: and if he be in finnes, Athey fhal be remitted him. 16 Aa)Confeffe therfore your finnes one to another: and pray one for another, that you may be faued. For the continual praier of a iuft man auaileth much. 17 Elias was a man like vnto vs, paffible: and with praier Ahe praied that it might not raine vpon the earth, and it rained not for three yeares and fixe moneths. 18 And he praied againe: and the heauen gaue raine, and the earth yealded her fruit.

Mr. 6, 13.

3. Reg. 17. Ecc. 48. Luc. 4, 25.

3. Reg. 18, 41.

¹⁹ My Brethren, if any of you fhal erre from the truth, and a man conuert him: ²⁰ he muft know that he which maketh a finner to be conuerted from the errour of his way, I fhal faue his foule from death, and D couereth a multitude of finnes.

ANNOTATIONS

The finnes crying to Heauen.

4 The hire.) To with-hold from the poore or labourer the hire or wages that is due or promifed to him for his feruice or worke done, is a great iniquitie, and one of those fine finnes which in holy writ be faid to cal for vengeance at God's hand, as we see here. They be called in the Catechisme, Sinnes crying to heauen. The other source be, murder, Gen. 18. v. 20. Vsurie, Exod. 22. v. 27. The sinne against nature, Gen. 18. v. 20. The oppression

^a The Heretikes tranflate, *Acknowledge your finnes &c.* So litle they can abide the very word of *confession*.

^b He that hath the zeale of converting finners, procureth thereby mercie & remiffion to himfelf which is a fingular grace.

and vexation of widowes, pupilles, ftrangers, and fuch like. *ib.* & Exod. 3. v. 9.

12 Sweare not.) He forbiddeth not al othes, as the Anabaptifts falfely fay. For in iuftice and iudgemet we may be by our lawful Magistrate put to sweare, and may lawfully take an othe, as also for the aduantaging of any necessarie truth when time and place require. But the custom of swearing, and al vaine, light, & vnnecessarie othes in our daily speach doe displease God highly, and are here forbidden by the Apostle, as also by our Sauiour. Mat. 5.

What othes are lawful, what are not.

14 Let him bring in the Priefts.) The Proteftants for their fpecial hatred of the holy order of Priefthood, as els-where often, fo here they corrupt the text euidently, translating *Prefbyteros*, Elders. As though the Apostle had meant men of age, and not such as were by holy office, Priests. S. Chrysostom who knew the sense and signification of the Greeke word according to the Ecclesiastical vse and the whole Churches iudgement, better then any Protestant aliue, taketh it plainely for *Sacerdotes*, that is, Priests. *li. 3. Sacerdotie prope initium*. And if they confesse that it is a word of office with them also, though they cal them Elders, and not Priests; then we demand whether the Apostle meane here men of that function which they in their new Churches cal Elders.

Heretical traflation against Priesthood.

If they fay no, as they muft needs (for Elders with them are not deputed fpecially to publike praying or administration of the Sacraments, fuch as the Apostle here requireth to be fent for) then they must needs grant, that their Elders answer not to the function of those which in the new Testament are called *Presbyteri* in Greek and Latin, and therfore both their translation to be false and fraudulent, and also their naming of their new degrees or orders to be fond and incongruous.

Neither their Elders (fo called) nor their Minifters, can be those whom the Apostle here calleth, Presbyteros.

If they fay their Ministers be correspondent to such as were called Prefbyteri in holy writ & in the Primitiue Church, & that they are the man whom the Apostle willeth to be called for to anoile the ficke & to pray for him, why doe they not the translate Prefbyteros Minifters? which they might doe with as good reason, as cal such as they have taken infteed of our Catholike Priefts, Minifters. Which word being in large acception comon to all that have to doe about the celebration of divine things, was never appropriated by vie either of Scripture or of the holy Church, to that higher function of publike administration of the Sacraments and Seruice, which is Priefthood: but to the order next vnder it, which is Deaconship. And therfore if any should be called Ministers, their Deacons properly should be fo termed. And the Protestants have no more reason to keep the ancient Greek word of Deacons, appropriated to that office by the vse of antiquity, then to keep the word Prieft, being made no leffe peculiar to the ftate of fuch only as Minister the holy Sacraments, & offer the Sacrifice of the Altar. But these fellows follow neither God's word, nor Ecclesiaftical vse,

They have no reason to cal their Ministers by that name.

Their Deacons fhould rather be called Minifters.

They fhould keep the name Prieft, as wel as Deacon.

The Sacrament of Extreme Vnction.

The Heretikes obiections againft the faid Sacrament, answered: and withal it is proued to be a Sacrament.

nor any reafon, but mere phantafie, noueltie, and hatred of God's Church. And how litle they follow any good rule or reafon in these things may appeare by this, that here they auoid to translate *Priests*, and yet in their Communion booke, in their order of visiting the ficke, they commonly name the Minister, *Priest*.

14 Anoiling with oile.) Here is the Sacrament of extreme Vnction fo plainely promulgated (for it was inftituted, as al other Sacraments of the new Teftament, by our Sauiour Chrift himfelf, and, as Venerable Bede thinketh and other ancient Writers, the anoiling of the ficke with oile *Marc. 6.* pertaineth thereunto) that fome Heretikes, for the euidence of this place alfo (as of the other for good workes) deny the Epiftle. Other (as the Caluinifts) through their confidence of cunning shifts and gloffes, confeffing that S. Iames is the Authour, yet condemne the Church of God for vfing and taking it for a Sacrament. But what difhonour to God is it (we pray them) that a Sacrament should be inftituted in the matter of oile, more then in the element of water? Why may not grace and remiffion of finnes be annexed to the one as wel as to the other, without derogation to God?

But they fay, Sacraments endure for euer in the Church, this but for a feafon in the Primitiue Church. What Scripture telleth them that this general and absolute prescription of the Apostle in this cafe should endure but for a feafon? When was it taken away, abrogated, or altered? They fee the Church of God hath alwaies vfed it vpon this warrant of the Apoftle, who knew Chrift's meaning and inftitution of it better then these deceived men, who make more of their owne fond gueffes & conjectures, grounded neither on Scripture nor vpon any circumftace of the text, nor any one authentical Authour that euer wrote, then of the expresse word of God. It was (fay they) a miraculous practife of healing the ficke, during only in the Apoftles time, and not long after. We aske them whether Chrift appointed any certain creature or external element vnto the Apoftles generally to worke miracles by. Himfelf vsed fometimes clay & spittle, fometimes he fent the that were difeafed, to wash themselues in waters: But that he appointed any of those or the like things for a general medicine or miraculous healing only, that we read not. For in the beginning, for the better inducing of the people to faith and deuotion, Chrift would have miracles to be wrought by fundry of the Sacraments also. Which miraculous workes ceafing, yet the Sacraments remaine ftil vnto the worldes end.

Againe we demand, whether euer they read or heard that men were generally commanded to feeke for their health by miraculous meanes? Thirdly, whether al Priefts, or (as they cal them) Elders, had the guift of miracles in the primitiue Church? No, it can not be. For though fome had, yet al these indifferently of whom the Apostle speaketh, had not the guift: and many that were not Priefts had it, both men and women, which yet could not

be called for as Priefts were in this cafe. And though the Apoftle and others could both cure men and reuiue them againe, yet there was no fuch general precept for ficke or dead men, as this, to cal for the Apostles to heale or restore them to life againe. Lastly had any external element or miraculous practife, vnles it were a Sacrament, the promife of remiffion of alkind of actual finnes ioyned vnto it? Or could S. Iames inftitute fuch a ceremonie himfelf, that could faue both, body and foule by giuing health to the one, and grace and remiffion to the other? At other times these contentious wranglers, raile at God's Church, for annexing only the remiffion of venial finnes to the element of water, made holy by the Priefts bleffing thereof in the name of Chrift, and his word: and loe here they are driven to hold that S. Iames prescribed a miraculous oile or creature which had much more power & efficacie. Into these straits are such miscreants brought that wil not believe the expresse word of God, interpreted by the practife of God's vniuerfal Church.

Remiffion of finnes annexed to creatures.

Holy water.

was deliuered to the holy Church by the Apoftles themfelues, that the ficke should be anointed with oile confecrated by the Bishops bleffing. See for this & for the affertion & vfe of this Sacrament, S. Innocentius ep. 1. ad Decentium Eugubinæm c. 8. to. 3. Conc. & l. 2. de vifitatione infirmorum in S. Auguftin c. 4. Concil. Cabilonenfe 2. cap. 48. Concil. Wormationfe cap. 72. to. 3. Conc. Aquifgra. c. 8. Florentium, and other later Councels. S. Bernard in the life of Malachie in fine. This holy oile becaufe the faithful faw to haue fuch vertue in the primitiue Church, diuers caried it home and occupied it in their infirmities, not vfing it in the Sacramental fort which the Apoftle prefcribeth, as the Aduerfaries vnlearnedly object vnto vs. but as Chriftians now doe (and then alfo

Venerable Bede in 9. Luc. faith thus. It is cleare that this cuftome

Holy oile bleffed by the Bishop.

The peoples deuotion toward fuch hallowed creatures.

The Sacramental

words.

The three effects of this Sacrament.

15 The praier of faith.) He meaneth the forme of the Sacrament, that is, the words fpoken at the fame time when the partie is anoiled, which no doubt are most ancient & Apostolike. Not that the word or praier alone should have that great effect here mentioned, but ioyned with the foresaid vection, as is plaine.

did) concerning the water of Baptifme, which they vfed to take home with the after it was hallowed, & to give it their difeased to

drinke.

15 Shal faue.) The first effect of this Sacrament is, to saue the soule, by giving grace & comfort to withstand the terrours and tentations of the enemie, going about (specially in that extremitie of death) to drive men to desperation or distresse of mind and other damnable inconveniences. The which effect is signified in the matter of this Sacrament specially.

15 Shal lift him vp.) When it shal be good for the faluation of the partie, or agreable to God's honour, this Sacrament reftoreth also a man to bodily health againe, as experience often teacheth vs. Which yet is not done by way of miracle, to make

Epistle of S. Iames

the partie fodenly whole, but by God's ordinarie prouidence & vfe of fecond caufes, which otherwife should not have had that effect, but for the faid Sacrament. This is the fecond effect.

Priefts (and not Elders) are the Ministers of this Sacramet.

15 They shal be remitted him.) What finnes fo euer remaine vnremitted, they shal in this Sacrament and by the grace thereof be remitted, if the perfons worthily receive it. This is the third effect. S. Chryfoftom of this effect faith thus: (fpeaking of Priefts) doe not only remit finnes in Baptisme, but afterward alfo, according to the faying of S. Iames: If any be ficke, let him bring in the Priefts &c. Li. 3. de Sacord. prope initium. Let the Protestants marke that he calleth *Presbyteros*, Sacerdotes: that is *Priefts*, and maketh them the only Ministers of this Sacrament, and not elders or other lay-men. By all which you fee this Sacrament of all other to be maruelous plainely fet forth by the Apostle. Only ficke men and (as the Greek word giueth) men very weake muft receive it: only Priefts muft be the Ministers of it: the matter of it is holy oile: the forme is praier, in fuch fort as we fee now vfed: the effects be as is aforefaid. Yet this fo plaine a matter and fo profitable a Sacrament, the enemie by Heretikes would wholy abolish.

ἀσθενεῖ τις

Confession.

16 Confesse therfore.) It is not certaine that he speaketh here of facramental Confession, yet the circumstance of the letter wel beareth it, and very probable it is that he meaneth of it: and Origen doth so expound it ho. 2. in Leuit. & Venerable Bede writeth thus, In this sentence (saith he) there must be this discretion, that our daily & litle sinnes we cofesse one to another, vnto our equals, and believe to be saved by their daily praier. But the vncleannes of the greater leprosie let vs according to the law open to the Priess, and at his pleasure in what manner and how long time he shal command, let vs be careful to be purissed. But the Protestants slying from the very word Confession in despite of the Sacrament translate thus, Acknowledge your saults one to another. They doe not wel like to have in one sentence, Priess, praying over the sicke, anoiling them, forgiving them their sinnes, confession, and the like.

Truths vnwritten & knowen by tradition.

17 He praied.) The Scriptures to which the Apoftle alludeth, make no mention of Elias praier. Therfore he knew it by tradition or reuelatio. Whereby we fee that many things vnwritten be of equal truth with the things written.

Converting of foules.

20 Maketh to be conuerted.) Here we fee the great reward of fuch as feeke to conuert Heretikes or other finners from errour and wickednes: and how necessarie an office it is, specially for a Priest.

Our faluation attributed to men, without derogation to Chrift.

20 Shal faue.) We fee, it derogateth not from God, to attribute our faluation to any man or Angel in heauen or earth, as to the workers thereof vnder God, by their praiers, preaching, correction, counfel, or otherwife. Yet the Heretikes are fo foolish and captious in this kind, that they can not heare patiently, that

In hunc locum.

our B. Lady or others should be counted meanes or workers of our faluation.