

GOSPEL-REPENTANCE

Floweth from

FAITH,

And

ATTENDETH A Instiffed Person all his dayes.

The difference between the LAVV and the GOSPEL.

Written by Francis Cornwell, a Minister and Servant of Iesus, the Christ, for the benefit of poor distressed consciences in City, Countrey, and Campe.

Printed by Fohn Damson. 1645.

To the Honourable, Valiant, and Victorious Commander Lievtenant Generall Cromwell, a

Member of the house of Commons:

As alfo,

To the truely Generous, and Valiant Commander Major Generall Skippon, lifted under the command of the thrice Noble and Valiant Commander in chief, Sir Thomas Fairfax; and to all the Saints scattered, contending for the faith of Jesus, the Christ, (Matth. 16, 16, 17.)

one given unto the Saints, and opposing the Pop sh Antichristian powers, that denicth Icsis, the Grisk,

Thrice Noble and Valiant Heroes,

He state of the Saints congregated, or scattered, for their spirituals, or temporals in this Nation, may not unfitly bee compared to Noah in the Arke. If you shall demand where-

A 3

The Epiftle

in was Neahs safety? Was it in the Arke, or out of it? I answer, First, not in the Arke; for there was lyons, and beares, and ravenous beafts, &c. the uncleane as well as cleane, Gen. 7. 2. Secondly, out of the Arke no safety; for there was the roaring winds, the raging waves beating, and hee no Pilot, knew not what course to steare, nor no haven to friend; the waters so prevailed, as all the high hills that were under the whole heavens, were covered fifteene cubits upward, Gen. 7.19,20. Where was then his fafety? It was by faith in the free promise, Gen. 7. I. Heb. 11.7.

So thrice Valiant Worthies, where are the Saints safeties for their

Dedicatorie.

their temporals in these distressed and distracted times? Is it in the City, or out of it? In the Camp, or out of it? In the Land, or out of it? In City, Campe, and Kingdome, is no peace; we have the uncleane, as well as the clean; the malignant, as well as truehearted; the accurfed Chams, as well as the compassionate Shems and Iaphets; the treacherous loabs, as well as true-hearted Amafa's: out of these no peace; for hee knoweth nothing, that knoweth not this, the whole earth is in uproare: and whofoever contendeth for the faith of Ielus, the Christ, (though hee have an evidence in himfelfe that hee is borne of God, 1 Ioh. 5 1.) yet, hee is made a prey in all coun-

ias it io

ravent

for a the pl

he high whole

When was by

orthics ies fo

The Epiftle

countries and Kingdomes where the Papall Government beareth Iway: Where is their safety then? Onely in the free promise, Heb. 13. 5. Let your conversation be without covetousnesse, and bee content with such things as you have; for hee hath said, I will never faile thee, nor for sake thee: TO. 6. So that wee may boldly say, the Lord is my helper, and I will not feare what flesh can dee unto me. Hence the Believer triumpheth, Hab. 3. 17. Although the figtree shall not blossome, neither shall fruits be in the vine; the labour of the olive shall faile, the fields yeeld no meate, the flocks shall be cut off from the folds, and there shall bee no berds in the state ; yet will I joy in the Lord, and reioyce in the God of my salroation. v. 18. If it be demanded, where.

Dedicatorie.

where is the Believers fafety in fpirituals? Is it in the Believer, and or out of him? I answer, not within him, (viz.) in his workes, duties, or qualifications, for he is partly flesh and partly spirituall; so that hee must confesse his best workes Hence (with the Church, Elay.

64.6.) the Believer acknow
bledgeth, that all his best works

are like filthy ragges, and will

frand him in no steed to justi
file him before God. Is it with
out him in the ordinances of word preached, Baptisme, or the Lords Supper? These returne the same answer to the Belie-

The Epiftle

ver, (as Iohn the Baptist did to the Pharises, Job. 1. 20.) that they are not the Christ. What are they then? Prayer is but thy Orator to poure out thy humble request to thy Father in the name of Christ, for what thou wantest. What will the word preached do? Declare the good will and free love the Father of heaven beareth unto thee in the Gospel of his Sonne, What will Baptisme and the Lords Supper doe ? Exhibite outwardly those mercies in the bloud of a lefus, that faith believeth, and the spirit inwardly witnesseth, and fealeth to thee in the free promile, that through the bloud

of.

Dedicatorie.

of Iesus, thy sinne is pardo-ned, thy person accepted in the Beloved one. But with one vote that the Beloved one. But with one vote they deny that they are the Christ. Where is their affectly then? Onely believing in a crucified, dead, and rifen lesus, Act, 13. 38, 39. Hence holy Paul glorieth, I live, yet not I, but Christ liveth in me; and I live by the faith of the sonne of God, that loved me, and gave himselfe for me, Gal.

2. 20. To redeeme me from all iniquity, and to purge me to be one of his peculiar ones, zealous of good workes, to the praise of his glory, Tit. 2the praise of his glory, Tit. 2-14. This Treatife was written for the consolation of some poor

The Epistle

poor drooping Saints in the point of assurance, as the tract of it selfe will more largely de. monstrate. It is a balm (though) a spirituall one) as requisite for a Souldier, as for a Citizen, if a Believer; for a foul true ly setled in the knowledge of this point of assurance, hath gained a rich treasure, a precious diamond, that will stand thee insteed at all seasons, in prosperity and adversity, in health and sicknesse; yea, and the houre of dearh. And while you live enjoying this, it will adde true valour and courage to all your noble acts, and heroicall exploits, that you doe for your Countries liberties,

and.

Dedicatorie.

and to preserve a Kingdome from arbitrary and tyrannicall governments, that those nations are subject to, that are subject to in fight, to put to fleight the Armies of the Aliens, that are risen up to destroy our King-Eden the garden of the Lord; but now (where the field of what warre hath been) it is almost made a desolate wildernesse. The good Lord encrease your faith in his precious promis fes, especially in the grand promile made to you in the bloud of his Sonne Issus, the Christ;

The Epiftle

and valour and courage for your Countries liberties; and give you meeknesse of spirit to bear with tender consci. ences, that stand for a Reformation agreeable to the word of Christ, that the Lord Ielus may bee one, and his name one in the three Kingdomes. that wee and our posterity af. ter us may live in peace, and love, and the Lord may delight to dwell amongst us. And fo, while your Honours, with your Noble loshua (the Honorable Parliaments Heroicall Commaunder) goeth out with the hosts against our op. pressing Amalekits, I and the Saints united will betake our selves.

Dedicatorie.

felves to the Mount, to pray for your good and prospeion rous successe, and the Kingof domes deliverance.

Orpington, in Kent.
May 15.

a Rel

16 120

rd Ich

is nad

domo

crity à

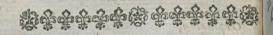
ce, 20

ay d

Selve

prayeth for the eftablishing of the Churches
peace, and the Kingdomes
priviledges, and Truths
propogation, that the Kingdome of Antichrist may be
ruined,

Francis Cornewell.



Errata.

lich och n

Reader, before thou readest this book, cast thine eye upon these faults, and as thou comest at them, thus correct them; Page 6. line 25. for as read and. Page 15. dele fly at the beginning of the 9. line, and adde it to the beginning of the 10. line. In page 106. at the beginning of the page in some copies adde this line, [world to come, 2 Gor. 5. 8. A man.]



KING JESVS

Is the Beleevers

rince, Priest, and Law-giver, in things appertaining to the Conscience, Isai. 55.4. Heb. 7.17.

Che loyall Spouse of Christ hath no Head, nor Husband, but Royall KING JESUS.

Vritten by Francis Cornwell, a Minister of esus Christ, out of the learned workes of Mr. John Fox, in his book of Martyrs, excepting onely some explanations of his owne, for the benefit of the Reader.

om. 7.4. Wherefore my brethren, yee are become dead to the Law by the body of Christ, that yee should be married to another, even to him who is raised from the dead, that wee should bring forth fruit unto God.

lat. 22.21. Give into Cefar the things that are Cefars, and unto God the things that are Gods.

London, Printed by f. Dawson. 1



To the curteous Reader.

Eloved, my foule having tasted bow gracious the Lord was to me, in making known theriches of his free mercy, in acquitting mee from sin, through faith in the bloud of my Christ; when I lay in dolefull desertion, in the time of my imprisonment, (for opposing that devised forme of Worship (which the Prelates had corrupted with their Popish innovations, by putting in, and leaving out, what they pleased) contrary to the Statute made in the third yeare of Edward the fixth, of happy memory) the first comfort that I received, for the assurance of the pardon of my sinne, and justification in the sight of God, was from reading this excellent Treatife of Mr. Fox, in his Difference betwixt the Law and the

The Epistle to the Reader.

the Gospel: Which I could not conceale; but for thy good (curteous Reader) I was bound in conscience to put it forth, for the benefit of others; and to shew that I hold nothing for doctrine, but that which hath been publikely printed, by Authority, seven several times; excepting onely some explanations of the Author, that bee hath put forth on purpose, for to free himself from the publike scandall of the Antinomian herese; by which many Orthodoxe Teachers now lie vailed. Thin

in the service of King Fesus,

Francis Cornwell

Difference between the Law and the Gospel: Taken out of the First Part of the book of Martyrs, written by Mr. Fox. Title, between

The true Church of Rome that then was, and the Church of Rome that now u, Pag. 24.

S there is nothing more neceffary and comfortable for troubled confciences, than to be well instructed in the difference betwixt the Law and the Gospel: So is the Church of Rome

much to blame in this behalfe; because it confoundeth together those two, being in nature so divers and contrary one from another: As, threatnings and promises, things temporall with things eternall, sorrowfull things with glad tidings, death with life, bondage with freedome, &c. Teaching the people, that whatsoever the Law saith, the Gospel confirmeth; and whatsoever the A 4.

2

Gospel saith, the same is agreeable to the Law; and so make they no difference betweene Moses and Christ, save only that Moses (say they) was the giver of the old Law, Christ is the giver of the new, and a more perfect Law: And thus imagine they the Gospel to be nothing else but a new Law, given by Christ, binding to the Promifes thereof the condition of our doings and deservings, no otherwise then unto the old Law; and fo divide they the whole Law, after this distinction, into three parts, (to wit) the Law of Nature, the Law of Mofes, and the Law of Christ: And as for the Gospel (say they) it is revealed for no other cause, but to shew to the world more perfect precepts and counfels, than were in the old Law: to the fulfilling whereof, they attribute Justification; and so leave the poore consciences of men in perpetuall doubt, and induce other manifold errours: bringing the people into a false opinion of Christ, as though hee were not a remedy a-gainst the Law, but came as another Moses to give a new Law unto the world.

Furthermore, as they make no difference between the nature of the Law and the nature of the Gospel, confounding Moses and Christ together; so neither doe they distinguish, or discerne, the time of the Law and

the time of the Gospel asunder. For, whereas Saint Paul bringeth in the Law to be a Schoolmaster, and limiteth him his time, unto Christ, Gal. 3. 24, 25. and faith, that Christ is the end of the Lam, Rom. 10.4. that is, where the Law ceafeth, there Christ beginneth; and where Christ beginneth, there the Law endeth. They, contrariwife, make the Law to have no end, nor ceasing; but give to it immortall life, and a Kingdome, equall with Christ: so that Christ, and the Law together, doe raigne over the foule and conscience of man. Which is untrue. For, either Christ must give place, and the Law stand; or the Law (the condemnation and malediction of the Law, I mean) must end, and Christ raign; for both these, Christ and the Law, Grace and Malediction, cannot raigne and governe together: But Christ the Sonne of God which once died, can die no more, but must raign for ever: Wherefore the Law with his strength, sting, and curse, must needs cease and have an end.

And this is it that St. Paul, speaking of the triumph of Christ, saith, that hee ascending up led away captivity captive, Ephes. 4.8. and hath set man at liberty (not at liberty to live as sless lusteth, neither hath freed him from the use and exercise of the

Law.

Law, but from the dominion and power of the Law;) so that now there is no condemnation to them that be in Christ fesus, which walke not after the flesh, Rom. 8.1. And in another place St. Paul faith, speaking of the same power and dominion of the Law, that Christ hath taken the obligation written against us in decrees, and bath nailed it upon the croffe, triumphing openly over all, &c. Col. 2.14, 15. So that as the Kingdome of Christ first began upon the crosse; even so upon the same crosse, and at the same time, the Kingdome of the Law expired, and the malediction of the Law was fo crucified upon the crosse, that it shall never rise againe to have any power against them that be in Christ Jelus. For, like as if a woman be discharged from her first husband, being dead, and hath married another man, the first husband hath no more power over her; even fo, wee now being espoused to Christ our fecond husband, are discharged utterly from our first husband the Law; and (as St. Paul in another place faith) are no more under the Lam, (that is, under the dominion and malediction of the Law) but under grace; (that is, under perpetuall remission of sins, committed not onely before our baptiline, but as well also after baptisme, and during

all our life long.) For therein properly con-

fifteth

fifteth the grace of God, in not imputing fin unto us, so often as the repenting sinner rifeth up by faith, flyeth unto Christ, and apprehendeth Gods mercy and remission promised in him; according to the testimony both of the Plalmist, Blessed is the man to whom the Lord imputeth no sin, &c. Pfal. 31.2. and also of all the Prophets, which (as St. Peter saith) give record to him, that through his Name all that beleeve in him Shall receive remission of their sinnes, &c. Acts 10.43. Which being fo, (as it cannot be denyed) then what need these private and extraordinary remissions to be brought into the Church, by eare confession, by meritorious deeds, and by Popes pardons? Or any other act of humiliations? (which Words are inferted by the Writer.) For, if there be no condemnation but by the Law, and if the Law it selfe be captived, crucified, abolished, and departed, (which was the first husband) what condemnation can there be to them that be in Christ Jesus, the beleevers fecond husband, or by whom shall it come? If there be no condemnation, but a free and generall deliverance for all men once gotten, by the victory of Christ, from the penalty of the Law, what needeth then any particular remission of sinnes, at sundry times bee fought for, at the Priests hands.

Difference between the

hands, or the Popes pardons?

Hee that hath a generall pardon, needeth no particular : If remedy for finne be generall and perpetuall, once gotten for ever to all them that be in Christ Jesus, what needeth any other remedy by auricular confession? If it be not generall and perpetuall, how is it then true that Saint Paul faith, The Law is cracified, and condemnation abolished? Or, how standeth Redemption perpetuall and generall, if remission of sinner be not generall? For what is Redemption elfe, but remiffion of finnes, or fins bought out? Or what elfe, to kill the Law, but to discharge us from condemnation for ever? Hee that delivereth his friend for a time out of his enemies hand, doth him a pleasure; but hee which killeth the enemy out of the way, giveth perpetuall fafety: So if remifon of finnes, by Christ, were for some fins, and not for all, the Law then must needs live still; but now, the killing and crucifying of the Law, importeth full remission of finnes to be abfolutely granted, and our fafety to be perpetuall.

But here, percase, will be objected of some; How standeth remission of sins certaine and perpetuall, seeing new offences being daily committed, doe daily require

new remissions ?

Here-

bject.

Hereunto I answer; Albeit sinnes doe Answedaily grow, whereby wee need daily to defire of God, to forgive us our trespasses, occ. yet not withstanding, the cause of our remission standeth ever one and perpetuall; neither is the same to be repeated any more, nor any other cause to be sought for besides that alone. This cause, is the sacrificed body of Christ once upon the crosse, Heb. 10.14. for all sinnes, that either have been, or shall be committed: Besides this cause, there is salvation in none other, Ast. 4. 12. neither confession, nor Priests prayer, nor mens pardon, nor any qualifications of ours, that remitteth sinnes.

Furthermore, as the cause is one, and ever perpetuall, which worketh remission of finnes unto us; fo is the promise of God ever one, once made and standeth perpetuall, that offereth the fame to the faith of the repenting finner. And because the faid promise of God is alwayes sure, and cannot faile, which offereth remission to all that beleeve in Christ, being limited neither to time nor number, therefore we may boldly conclude, that at what time foever a repenting finner beleeveth, and by faith applieth to himselfe the sacrifice of Christ, hee hath, by Gods own free promise, remission of his finnes, whether they were done before or And after Baptisme.

y out o

And moreover, for so much as the said promise of God offereth remission of sinne to the repentant sinner, by no other meanes nor condition but onely one, that is, by saith in Christ; therefore excluding all other meanes and conditions of mans working: (Thus Fox: the Writer addes) yea, and marks, and signes, and qualifications, as poverty of spirit, mourning for sinnes, or any other acts of humiliation, to be joyned with faith in Christ, in point of Justifica-

tion.

Wee (faith Mr. Fox) fay, that what repenting finner foever beleeveth in Christ. hath already in himfelfe (and needeth not to feeke to any Priest) perpetuall assurance of remission of sinnes; not for this time, or that time onely, but for ever and a day : for the promise saith not, He that believeth in Christ shall be pardoned this time, so he finne no more; neither doth it fay, the Law is stayed, or the sentence reprived; but faith plainly, that the Law, with her condemnation and fentence, herfelfe is condemned and hanged up, and shall never rise again to condemne them that be in Christ Jesus, Rom. 8. I. and promifeth indeterminately, without limitation, remission of sinnes to all that beleeve in his Name, Alts 10.43. And in another place, the Scripture speaking absolutely,

and addeth the reason why, saying, because yee are not under the law, but under grace;
Rom. 6. 14. adding this lower Rom. 6. 14. adding this leffon withall, (as followeth in the fame place) Not that finners should sinne more therefore, because they are under grace; but onely, that weak infirmity mich. they are under grace; but onely, that weak infirmity might be relieved, broken conficiences comforted, and repenting finners holpen from desperation, to the praise of Gods glory; for God forgiveth not finners because they should sinne: So neither doth infirmity of falling diminish the grace of Christ but doth rather illustrates. of Christ, but doth rather illustrate the same, as it is written, My strength is made perfect in weaknesse, z Cor. 12.9. and again, Where sinne abounded, there superaboundeth also grace, Rom. 5.20 grace, Rom. 5. 20.

In remission of sins therefore these foure things must concurre together: First, the cause that worketh it, (which is, the facrifice of Christs body.) Secondly, the promise that offereth: Thirdly, Faith that apprehendeth: Fourthly, the repenting sinner that receiveth it. Thus farre Mr. For The that receiveth it. Thus farre Mr. Fox. The

If faith onely justifie a poore sinner in Objett. the fight of God, why then is repentance added to faith in point of Justification, faying. The repenting sinner receiveth it?

Difference between the

Answ.

If you demand of me, what it is that justifieth a soule in the sight of God? I answer, onely faith; Rom. 4.22. but I adde repentance, to declare what is the nature of that faith which justifieth a soule; it is repenting faith; working faith; and this faith

worketh by love, Gal. 5. 6.

And although fins doe daily grow, which daily provoke us to crave remission of our daily finnes, yet, as touching the cause that worketh the pardon of our daily finnes, it is the facrifice of Christs body, once offered for all upon the crosse; and the means which apprehendeth the faid cause unto us, is faith onely; and these remaine alwayes one and perpetuall: besides which, there is none other cause or meanes to be sought of man. So that to them that be repenting finners, and be in Christ Jesus, there is no Law to condemne them, though they have deferved condemnation; but they are under a perpetuall kingdome, and a heaven full of grace and remission, to cover their sins, and not to impute their iniquities, through the promife of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Therefore, wicked and impious is the Do-Etrine of them, First, which seek any other cause of remission of sins, save in the bloud of Christ our Saviour onely: 170hn 1.7. Ephel. 1.7. Heb. 9.14. & 10.4. Act. 4.12.

Secondly,

Secondly, which affigne any other meanes to apply the bloud-shedding of Christ unto us besides onely faith: John 3. 16. God so loved the world, that hee gave his onely begotten Son, that who soever beleeveth in him fould not perish, but have everlasting life. Thirdly, and especially, which so limit and Thirdly, and especially, which so limit and restraine the eternall priviledges of Christs passion, as though it served but only for sins done without and before faith, and that the rest, after baptisme committed, must be done away by confessions, pardons, and satisfactory deeds; or (as the writer addeth, but not Mr. Fox) some qualifications of our owne. And all this ariseth, because the true nature of the Law and the Gospel is not knowne, nor the difference rightly considered, between the times of the one and of the other, (as before hath been by Mr. Fox argely discussed).

Neither againe doe they make any distinction between the malediction of the Law.

Aftion between the malediction of the Law. and the true use of the Law; (thus far Mana fox; but the Writer inserteth these words) as it is enjoyned a believer by his Law-giver King Jesus: Jam. 4. 12. There is but one Law-giver, to the believer; (for to such fave and destroy, which is Jesus: who is fave and destroy, which is fesus: who is become a beleevers Head and Husband

who doth not onely shew a beleever what is his will, but giveth him strength to doe his will; and in case there be defects, as who transgresseth not, his bloud pardons all, and his love covers all, Rom. 7.4. Phil. 4.13.

I fob. 2. 1, 2.

Therefore, when soever they hear us speak of the Law of Moses, that whole rigid yoke, that bound us over to death and damnation for every trespasse and transgression done against it, to bee to a beleever abolished, Cthough we hold it in force at this day with all his strength, sting, and curses, to the unbeleever, (to wit) to the lawlesse and disobedient, for the ungodly and for finners, for unholy and profane, for murtherers of fathers, and murtherers of mothers, for manflayers: For whoremongers, for them that defile themselves with mankind, for menstealers, for liars, for perjured persons, and if there be any other thing that is contrary to found doctrine, I Tim. 1.9, 10.) they maliciously flander us, as though wee gave liberty to the flesh and carnall men, to live as they lift: whereas we teach, that though Christ by his death hath freed us from the first husband, the Law, Rom. 7.4. Yee are my brethren become dead to the Law; what Law was this, the Ceremoniall Law? no; for that was the remedy against the rigid yoke

of the Law, in case there were sinnes of ignorance committed, Numb. 15. from the 22. Verse to the 29. Verse; which typissed out a Christ, which is the onely sacrifice for finne, Heb. 10. 14. but the Morall Law, which onely discovereth to man his sinne; Rom. 3. 20. By the deeds of the Law Shall no flesh be justified in his light; for by the Law cometh the knowledge of sinne. That decurfe, for the transgressions against it, is the Morall Law; Gal. 3.10. For as many as are of the workes of the Law, are under the of turfe; for it is written, Curfed is every me that continueth not in all things which for my hem. mother written in the book of the Law, to doe

for 2 nest. How are wee freed from this harfe, the Morall Law bindeth us over to? of Answ. By the body of Christ, Rom. 7.4.

on to wit) crucified. Quest. How prove you

on to Answ. Gal. 3.13, 14. Christ hath reeemed us from the curse of the Law, being

the hade a curse for us: for it is written, Curof ed is every one that hangeth on the tree:

that the blessing of Abraham might come
on n the Gentiles through Jesus Christ; that proper might receive the promise of the Spirit brough faith. Yet the end why Christ ath freed us by his death from the first and

古4

our cruell husband the Law, was not to live as flesh and nature lusteth; but that wee should be married to another, even to the Lord Jefus, that was raifed againe from the dead, that he should be our Head, Lord, and Husband; who hath not taken away the equity and true use of the Law, as it is rule of holinesse for all his justified ones to walke in, so it remaineth in force to this day, and shall for ever; as Christ testifieth Mat. 5. 21, 22. Yee have heard, that i was faid by them of old time, Thou shalt no kill: But I say unto you, that who soever i angry with his brother without a cause, shall be in danger of the judgement, &c. So that Christ sheweth, there are more wayes to breake the fixth Commandement, then by laying violent hands upon thy brother. And fo forward. Christ teacheth his justified ones the spirituality of the Law, from the 21 Verse to the latter end of the Chapter. A Christ now sheweth us what is his Law and will wee should walke in, so hee comman. dethus in love to doe them; 70h. 14. 15 If yee love mee, keep my commandements and in case there be defects, his bloud par. dons all our trespasses, and his love covers all. Tell mee then thou beleeving foule. dost thou defire to live under thy first hus hand the Law, which shewed thee onely What what to doe, and gave thee no ftrength to doe it (as thy fecond husband Christ Jesus doth,) and in case thou failest but in one title of thine obedience, in thought, word, but or deed, thou must perish for ever?

But by the Law cometh the

But by the Law cometh the knowledge Object.

But by the Law cometh the knowledge Object.

But by the Law cometh the knowledge Object.

If the standard of the which a beleever walketh according to that crule of holinesse) is Jesus Christ: Gal. 2.20.

Neverthelesse, I live, yet not I, but Christ with in me. So that a beleever doth not how worke for life, and for heaven and salmon varion, as hee did when hee was under the law: but from life (these was under the that is to fay) from that principle of grace received; Col.2.6, 7. As yee have received fefus Christ the Lord, so walke in him: Rooted and built up in him, and established in the faith, as yee have been taught, abounding therein with thanksgiving. Hence Paul faith, I Gor. 15.10. I laboured more abundantly than of they all; yet not I, but the grace of God which was with mee.

Secondly, The rigidnesse of the yoke, that bindeth every observer of the Law under the curse, is taken away by Christ, Gal. 3.13. So that the power and penalty of the Law can bring his soule in bondage no more, Gal. 5.1. seeing Christ hath set him free.

Thirdly, The Law it selfe did not disco. ver to Paul his finne; (for hee boaftingly faid, in his naturall condition, as hee was Jew, borne of the stock of Abraham, and of the tribe of Benjamin, and circumcifed the eighth day, and by the Law a Pharifee; and concerning zeale, perfecuting the Church. and concerning the keeping of the Law blamelesse; Phil. 3. 6.) but by the know. ledge of Christ hee came to know himselfe a finner; I Tim. 1. 15. This is a faithful faying, and worthy of all men to be received That fesus Christ came into the world to Save sinners, of whom I am the chiefe. So that Saint Paul never faw himselfe a sinner, till hee had feen Christ; and the more hee by grace faw the beauty and excellency of Christ, the more hee faw the corruption of his owne evill heart, burning in lust against the Law of God, Rom. 7. from the 14. to the 24. Verse: from which corruption, none could free him but a Christ alone; therefore breaketh out into praifes, I thanke my

Rom. 7.25. God through Christ, Thus though the Law

be

be as a rule, to shew a man his evills committed against it, yet it is Christ must give thee eyes to fee thy finne and transgression thou hast done against it, as justified Paul acknowledgeth; I had not known lust to be sinne, except the Law had said, Thou shalt Rom. 7. not lust. Christ must give the light, Ephes. 5. 14. Acts 26. 17, 18. Christ fent Paul to the Gentiles, To open their blind eyes, and to turne them from darknesse to light, and from the power of Satan unto God.

The fourth branch is taken out of the briefe recapitulation of St. Pauls doctrine delivered to the Gentiles, out of Mr. Fox,

Tom. 1. pag. 19.

10

s he

a fall rece profes

To teach and informe us (to whom the benefits of Christs passion and victory doe appertaine) by what meanes the fame is applied, and redoundeth unto us; which meanes is onely one, (that is) onely faith in Christ Jesus, and no other thing; which faith, it pleafeth Almighty God to accept for righteousnesse: and this righteousnesse it is which onely standeth before God, and none other, as wee are plainly taught by the Scriptures, and especially by the doctrine of S. Paul: which righteousnesse, thus rifing of faith in Christ, Saint Paul calleth, The righteousnesse of God; where hee speaking of himselfe utterly refusing the other righ-B 4

teoufneffe,

teousnesse, which is of the Law, that he may be found in him, not having his owne righteousnesse, which is of the Law, but the righteonfnesse of Christ, which is of faith, Phil. 3. 9. Again, the faid Apostle writing of the Jewes, which fought for righteout nelle, but found it not; and also of the Gen. tiles, which fought not for it, and yet found it, shewed the reason why, Because (faith hee) the one fought it as by workes, and by Law, and came not to it: Who not knowing the righteousnesse of God, and seeking to fet up their owne righteoufnesse, did not fubmit themselves to the righteousnesse which is of God, Rom. 9. 32. & 10. 2. The other, which were Gentiles, and fought not for it, obtained righteousnesse, even that righteousnesse which is of faith, Rom. 9. 30. Alfo, in another place, Saint Paul in the same Epistle writing of this righteousnesse. which cometh of faith, calleth it the righteousnesse of God, in these words, Whom God (faith hee) bath fet forth to be a propitiation, through faith in his bloud, to de_ clare his righteousnesse for the remission of sinnes that are past, through the forbearance of God: To declare, I fay, at that time his righteousnesse; that bee might be just, and the justifier of him that beteeveth in fosus. Rom. 3. 25, 26. By which righteousnesse, it is evident that Saint Paul meaneth the righteousnesse of faith, which Almighty God now revealeth, and maketh manifest, by

preaching of the Gospel.

Wilt thou see (gentle Reader) yet more plainly this righteousnesse of God, how it is taken in Saint Pauls Epistles for the righteousnesse of faith, and therefore is called the righteousnesse of God; because it is imputed onely of God to faith, and not deserved of man? But now the righteousnesse of God without the Law is manifested, being witnessed by the Law and the Prophets: Even the righteousnesse of God which is by faith of fesus Christ unto all, and upon all them that believe; for there is no difference: For all have sinned, &c. Rom. 3.21, 22, 23.

Wherefore whosover studieth to be accepted with God, and be found righteous in his sight, let him learne diligently, by the doctrine of Saint Paul, to make a difference and a separation, as farre as from heaven and earth, between these two; that is, between the righteousnesse of workes, and the righteousnesse of faith: and in any wise let him beware hee bring no other meanes for his justification, and remission of his sins, but onely faith, apprehending the body or person of Jesus Christ crucisted. For as

there

there is no way into the house but by the doore, so there is no coming to God the Father but by Christ alone, which is by faith in him, 90h. 14.6. And as the mortall body without bodily fustenance of bread and wine cannot but perifn, so the spirituall part of man hath no other refreshing, but onely by faith in the body and bloud of Chrift, whereby hee may be faved; 70h. 3.14,16, 36. & 6. 53, 54. Alts 10. 43. & 26. 18. Gal. 2. 20. Thus apostatized Adam, that had broken the Law by eating the forbidden fruit, and had the earth accurfed for his fin, was faved by faith in the free-promise, Gen, 3. 15. Thus Abraham, that was by nature an Idolater, was faved by faith in a Gospelpromise, Gen. 12.3. Thus Mary Magdalen, the great finner, was faved by faith in a free-promise, Luke 7.47. Daughter, be of good comfort, thy finnes are forgiven thee: Thy faith hath faved thee, goe in peace; Verse 50. Thus Cornelius the Captaine of the Italian band, with them that beleeved in his house with him, were saved by faith: Atts 10.47. & 11. 17, 18. Yea, and thus the cruell Jailor (that beat the Apostles) and his houshold, were faved by faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, Atts 16. 30, 31, 32, 33, 34.

Thus thou mailt fee (gentle Reader) that

as the death of Jesus Christ on the tree, I Pet. 2. 24. is the onely meritorious cause of falvation, fo is faith the only instrumentall or maine cause that maketh the merits of Christ to us availeable; for as the sufferings of Christ on the accursed tree, Gal.3. 13. ferveth to the benefit of none but fuch as doe beleeve; so neither doth faith (as it is onely a bare quality or action in mans mind) it selfe justifie, unlesse it be directed to the body of Christ crucified, as to his object, of whom it receiveth all his vertue. And therefore these two must alwayes joyntly concurre together, Faith and Christ. Jesus crucified: As for example, When the children of Israel were bid of Moses to look up to the brasen serpent, neither could the ferpent have helped them, except they had looked up, nor yet their looking upward have profited them, unlesse they had directed their eye unto the faid brasen serpent, as the onely object fet up of God for the same purpole, for them to behold; fo all poore finners are commanded in the Gospel to look up to Jesus whom they have pierced, Zech. 12. 10. now a crucified Jesus cannor help them, except they looke up; nor yet their beleeving, or looking upward cannot profit them, unlesse they direct the eye of their faith unto the faid crucified Jesus, as the

the onely object, fet up of Gods free grace for them to behold, John 3. 14. Thus our faith, directed (by Gods own Spirit, Zech. 12.10.) to the body of Jesus crucified, is the onely meanes whereby Christs merits are applied to us, and we now justified before God; according to the doctrine of Paul, who in expresse words defining what this faith is, and how it justifieth, faith, If thou shalt confesse with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt beleeve in thine heart, that God hath raised him from the dead, thou

Smit be faved. Rom. 10.9.

Belides this, what action or quality foe, ver is in man, either hope, charity, or any other kind of faith or beleeving, be it never fo true, except it apprehend this object, (which is) the body of Christ the Sonne of God, that loved us, and gave himselfe for us, it ferveth not to justification: And that is the cause why wee adde this particle [onely] to faith, and say, that Faith onely in Christ justifieth us; to exclude all other actions, qualities; (Thus farre Mr. Fox; the Writer addes,) qualifications, marks, fignes, evidences of fanctification, as poverty of spirit, mourning for sinne, hungring and thirsting after Christ, love to the brethren. univerfall obedience, or gifts, or workes of beleevers, as repentance for finne, or any other

ther acts of humiliation, falting, praying, weeping, mourning, or reformation, or deed of charity, from the cause of justifying.

But you destroy qualifications, markes, Object;

fignes, and evidences of fanctification.

Doe I destroy qualifications, &c. because Answ. I will not make them causes of my justification? Markes, fignes, and evidences of lanctification flow from faith, and not faith from them; they are the fruits (as I may so speake) of a justifying faith, and declare what kind of faith it is that justifieth; namely, repenting faith, working faith: They Shall look upon him whom they have pierced, and they shall mourne over him, as one mourneth for an onely sonne, and shall be in bitternesse for him, as one that is in bitternesse for his first-borne, Zech. 12.10. Because nothing can expiate my sinne, but the bloud of my Christ, therefore I repent.

But, a good tree is knowne by his fruit. Object!

Mat. 7.17.

050

To others, not to it selfe; for, if the good Answeree could speake, it would say, I am not a good tree because I beare good fruit, but by vertue of my union with my good root, I bring forth good fruit: So we are got good men, because wee shew forth

to others these markes, signes, qualifications, and evidences of our fanctification, as poverty of spirit, mourning for sinne, hungring and thirsting after Christ, &c. but by vertue of our union with our good root, the Lord Jefus, wee bring forth this good fruit : John 15. 5. I am the Vine, and yee are the branches: hee that abideth in mee, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit; for without mee yee can doe nothing. These Objections and the Anfwers were inferted by the Writer, to fhew, that though hee deny markes, fignes, qualifications, and evidences of fanctification, as causes of justifying, yea, and he utter-ly denyeth them to be the first evidence of Justification; for that were to robbe faith of his prerogative, Heb. 11. 1. Faith is the evidence of things not seen; though hee deny them à priori, yet hee acknowledgeth them a posteriori, from the effects, as a secondary witnesse, and as an evidence that the spirit of Jesus dwelleth in you of a truth, which caufeth this life and fruit of holinesse so to abound in you. Thus farre the Writer declareth his judgement. Now to Mr. Foxes words againe. For so much as there is no other knowledge, nor gifts of men, given of God to man, be it never To excellent, can stand before the judgement

of God, unto justification of a poore finner, or whereunto any promise of salvation is annexed, but onely this faith, looking up to this spiritual Brasen Serpent; that is, to the body of Christ Jesus for us crucified: Zech. 12. 10. As for example,

When the Turke faith, that hee beleeveth in one living God, that made heaven and earth; his beleefe therein is true, yet it justifieth him not; because it lacketh the right object, which is Christ Jesus cruci-

So when the Jew faith, that he beleevet he in one God, maker of heaven and earth; and beleeveth also the same God to be omnipotent, mercifull, just, and true of promile, and that hee hath elected the feed of Abraham: true it is that hee beleeveth; and yet all this ferveth him not, because Jesus Christ crucified, the Sonne of God, is not joyned with all. And though the faid Jew should be never so devout in his prayers, or charitable in his almes, or precife in keeping the Law, and beleeve never of fo fledfastly that hee is elect to be faved; yet hee is never the nearer to falvation for all this, fo long as his faith is not grounded upon the head Corner-stone, which is the person and body of Jesus Christ, the true Saviour; feeing there is falvation in none other: Atts 4. 12.

After like fort it may be faid of the Papift, when hee faith that hee is baptized, and beleeveth in the Father, Sonne, and Holo Ghost, three Persons and one God, and also confesseth that Jesus is the Sonne of God, which died for our finnes, and rofe againe for our righteousnesse, &c. his beleefe therein is true, and indeed would fave him, if hee did stay his falvation in this faith. and upon Christ his Saviour onely, according to the promise and grace of God, and goe no further : but that hee doth not : for neither doth hee admit Christ onely to be his perfect Saviour, without the help of Patrons, Deeds, Advocates and Mediatours. nor yet permitteth his faith in Christ onely to be the meanes of his justification; but fetteth up other by-meanes, as hope, charity, Sacrifice of the Masse, confession, pennance, fatisfaction, merits, and pardons, fup. pofing thereby to worke his justification be. fore God; contrary to the word of promile, John 3.16. and to the Gospel of grace. Gal. 3. 8. Thus farre Mr. Fox. Now the Writer inferteth a few words. Thus the Papifts declare from what flock they fpring, even from fezebel of Rome, the mother of all fornication, that hath the true character of an harlot, I King. 3: 26. that can be content

Sontent with a divided Christ: But the true Spouse of Christ will have a whole Christ or none in point of Justification, or Interceffion; for Christ will not give his glory to another: And Saint Paul telleth us, that if wee bring circumcifion to adde to Christ, in point of Justification, (as without which hee were not a perfect Saviour) Christ profits nothing :

Gal. 5.2.

'God

doch

2000

the help

ioni

005, cion!

OW

Now to Mr. Fox. And thus much of the true causes of our justification; after the doctrine of Saint Paul: Concerning Which causes, this distinction furthermore by the way is to be added, that as touching the original causes of our salvation, which be divers and fundry, fome are rife of externall, and without us; some are internall, and within us. Of the externall causes, which are without us, the first and principall is, the mercy and grace of God: Of this followeth Predestination and Election, Rom. 9. 11, 12: then Vocation, ofp which is of free grace, nothing in the creature is the cause of it; 1 Cor. 2. 26, 27, 28, 29, 30. 2 Tim. 1.9. The last, and hus o next cause to this, is the death and bloudfind thedding of Christ; whereby wee are re-deemed: And all these be externall causes, because they are without us. Of

Of internall causes that be in, man, through the gift of God, Ephef. 2.8. there is but one, and no more in Scripture appointed; that is, our faith in Christ; which is the gift of God in us, Phil. 1.29. Besides this, there is no gift of God given to man; vertue, worke, merit, nor any thing elfe, that is any part or cause of falvation, but onely this gift of faith, to be leeve in Christ Jesus. And this is the cause why wee hold, that faith onely justifieth; meaning, that amongst all the workes, deeds, actions, labours, and operations whatfoever man doth or can doe, there is nothing in man that worketh falvation, but onely his faith, given him of God, to beleeve in Christ Jesus his Sonne, that was crucified for him. Following therein the trade of Saint Paul's teaching, who in precise words so ascribeth Justification to Faith, that hee excludeth all other actions of man, and workes of the Law and therefore, in the Epistle to the Romanes, Saint Paul reasoning of the glory of justifying, asketh this question, How this glory is excluded? By what law? of workes? Nay; but by the law of faith; Therefore we conclude, that a man is justified by faith without the deeds of the Law. Rom. 3. 27, 28. Thus farre Mr. Fox. Now Now the Writer will infert a few words, on explanation of a Text of Scripture, in Petting out the dignity of faith, 70h.3. 16. of the faving knowledge of the promife hrift, there is required these fix partidulars :

The first is, the freenesse of grace offe-ed: It requireth nothing precedent in ny man; no qualifications, preparations, ispositions whatsoever 5 no freedome rom any finne, in one kind or other; no nrecedent forrow or remorfe for finne; put that it is freely and willingly tenered by the Lord, to be embraced and eleeved by the most unworthiest of men,

of s by the worthieft of all.

But is there no qualification in the foule Object.

If there be any qualification in the foul Answ.

There be any qualification in the foul Answ.

There is a going before faith, then
there may be something pleasing to God

There may be something pleasing to God

There is a faith received; But n the foule before faith received; But here is nothing pleasing unto God beore faith; the reason is, Heb. 11.6. With-Therefore I conclude, there is no qualification, preparation, disposition whatsoever in the foule pleasing unto God before aith received; for, as for poverty of spi-TIE,

Mat.5. Luk. 6. rit, and mourning for finne, and hungring and thirlting after Christ and his righted ousnesse, these flow from faith; and they are the effects and fruits of that faith the instificth.

The fecond is, the fulnefie of this grace, which standeth chiefly in two things:

1. In the extent of it to all sinnes; for that no sinnes whatsoever, or how man so soever, or of what continuance soever, can make a man (in his naturall condition uncapable of this pardon and forgivenes of them there offered. As for the sinner against the holy Spirit, Mat. 12. 31. the is a sinne against light, and grace received

as appeareth, Heb. 6.6.

2. In the extent unto all persons: there of, of what ranck or condition soever, or of what number soever; instance, if ten or an hundred, or ten thousand of the greatest and soulest sinners in the world accepting, (that is to say) believing the promise of life in Christ, shall be as readily and certainly pardoned, as the smallest number of the lightest offenders the ever were. These two things are in the note of the universality, Whosever believeth in him shall not periss.

The third is, the knowledge of the Gospel; which requireth the apprehen

fig

ion of the way, and of the means of conreyance, and of the derivation of this race to the world; and that is, in and by Jefus Chrift, as for his fake onely.

The fourth is, the incommunicablenesse of this pardoning and faving grace, either in whole or in part; in any other ver, then by and through Christ alone. way, or by any other meanes whatfoe-This third and fourth I conceive to bee expressed in these words [in him,] that s, In Christ Jesus; and in Christ Jesus so intirely, that hee joyneth nothing with him to trust on or confide in besides: Gal.5. 2,3.

The fifth is, that act or condition in the creature, (by which God doth actually instate him in the possession of this grace) which is, faith, or believing of the promise of life in Jesus Christ: In this word,

The fixth is, the infinite benefit in this grace received by faith, or beleeving; that is, falvation: (clearly expressed in these words) shall not perish, but have everlasting life. So much the Author or Writer inserteth.

The last part of this Treatise, that the Author hath taken out of Mr. Foxes Writings, is out of the Summary collections

of the errours, herefies, abfurdities, contained in the Popes doctrine; contrary to the rule of Gods word, and the first in stitution of the Church of Rome. Tome

part. pag. 22.

This errour and herefie of the Church of Rome, though it seeme at the first sight to the natural reason of man, to be but of small importance; yet if it be earnest by considered, it is in very deed the most pernicious herefie that ever (almost) crep into the Church: upon which, as the on by foundation, all, or the most part of all the errours, absurdities, and inconveniences of the Popes Church are grounded.

For, this being once admitted, that man is not justified by his faith in Christ alone, but other meanes (and qualifications, or evidences of fanctification) must be fought, by our owne working and me rits, to apply the merits of Christs Passi, on unto us, then is there neither any certainty left of our falvation, nor end in setting up new meanes (and markes and signes) and merits of our owne devising for the getting of the assurance of the remission of sinnes. Neither hath there been any heresie, that hath either rebelled more presumptuously against the high Majesty of God

God the Father, nor more perniciously hath injured the foule of the simple, than this doctrine.

The first inconvenience.

It subverteth the Will and Testament of God: For, whereas Almighty God of this mercy hath given us his Sonne Jesus Christ to dye for us, and with him hatla given out a full promise, That who seever beleeveth in him shall not perish, but shave everlasting life, Joh. 3. 16, 36. by their faith onely; and affigneth no other condition, either of the Law, or any mans workes, but onely faith to be the meane between his Sonne Jesus Christ and us; these men take upon them to alter this Testament, that God hath ratified in the bloud of his Sonne, and adjoyne other conditions, which the Lord in his word never appointed nor knew. To whom the words of ferome may be well applipeaking of such, Qui de Evangelio Christi faciunt hominis, vel quod pejus est, diaboli, &c. That is, Which make of the Gospel of Christ the Gospel of men, or rather, the Gospel of the devill, &c.

The second inconvenience.

Whereas the Christian Reader, in the Gospel, reading of the great grace and **fweet**

Rom. S.I.

kind in Christ Jesus his Sonne, migh thereby take much comfort of foule, and bee at rest and peace with the Lord his God, cometh in the pertiferous doctrine of these Heretikes, wherewith they ob. foure this free-grace of God, to choke the fweet comforts of man in the Holy Spirit Gal. 2.20. and oppresse Christian liberty, and bring us into spirituall bondage, which Chris by his precious death hath freed us from Gal. 5.1.

The third inconvenience.

As in this their impious doctrine they thew themselves manifest enemies to the grace of God tendered to us in Chrisby interpoling their owne righteoulness of workes with the righteousnesse of faith and fo make the death of Christ of none effect; Gal. 2. 21. If righteousnesse come by the law, then Christ is dead in vaine; So are they no leffe injurious to Christian men, that beleeve in him for life and falvation, whom they leave in a doubtfull distrust of Gods favour, and of their salvation; contrary to the word and will of God, and right institution of the Apo-Stolicall doctrine.

Object.

Whereas our new School-men of late. to maintaine this faid wicked point of doctrine.

doctrine, doe object unto us, that wee rather leave mens consciences uncertaine; for as much as if life (fay they) were not a due reward, it were uncertaine: And now for as much as a due debt is certain, and mercy and favour is uncertain; therefore (fay they) wee leaving mens consciences to the mercy of God, doe leave them in a doubtfull uncertainty of their falvarion.

To this I answer, that due debt, if it be Answ. Proved by the Law duly deferved, it must be certaine; but if the Law shall prove it imperfect, or unsufficiently due, then it is not certaine, neither can there be any thing duly claimed. Now, as touching mercy, fo long as it remaineth fecret in the Prince of life Christ Jesus, and not knowne to his subjects that believe and obey him, so long it is uncertaine; but when this mercy shall be openly published by proclamation, Esay 55. 1, 2,3. 70h. 7. 37. Revel. 22. 17. Let him that is athirst, come. And whosoever will, let bim take of the water of life freely: ratified by an oath and a promife, That by two immutable things, in which it was empossible for God to lye, we might have a strong consolation, Heb. 6. 17, 18. confirmed by his last Will and Testament, e-

ftablished.

pd

stablished in bloud, that the promise of pardon and forgivenesse of sinne may be fure to all that beleeve; For a mans Testament is of force after a man is dead, Heb. 9. 17. and fealed inwardly by the Spirit to the conscience, Rom. 8. 16. and outwardly by the Sacrament of Baptifine, and the Lords Supper; which are to us that believe, as the rain-bow was to the old world, a token that God will destroy the world with water no more, Gen. 9. 14, 15, 16, 17. fo God hath sworne to us in his Sonne, that hee will not be wroth with us, nor rebuke us; For the mountaines shall depart, and the hills be removed, but my kindnesse shall not depart from thee, neither shall the covenant of my peace be removed, saith the Lord that hath mercy on thee, Esay 54.9, 10. For I will be mercifull to their unrighteonsnesse, and their sinnes and their iniquities will I remember no more, Heb. 8. 12. Then this mercy remaineth no more doubtfull, but ought firmly to be beleeved of every faithfull subject to King Jesus. Therefore Saint Panl, to establish our hearts in this affurance, and so to give a full answer to this doubt, in his Epittle to the Romanes doth teach us, faying, And therefore of faith, that it might bee by grace.

grace, to the end the promise might be sure to all the seed; not to that onely which is of the law, but to that also which is of the faith of Abraham, who is the father of us all, Rom.4. 16. Now it was not pritten for his sake alone, that it was imputed to him; but for us also, to whom it shall be imputed, if wee beleeve on him that raised up fesus our Lord from the dead; who was delivered for our offences, and was raised againe for our justification, Verl. 23, 24, 25. meaning hereby, that workes have nothing to doe in this case of justifying; and noteth the reason why, for then our falvation should never be certaine, but stand in a doubtfull wavering; because, in working, we are never certain whe ther our workes and deferts be perfect and fufficient in Gods judgement yea or no: and therefore (faith Saint Paul) to the intent our falvation should be out of doubt, and certain, it standeth not of works, in deserving; but of faith, in apprehending; and of Gods free grace, in promifing life and falvation through Jesus Christ our Lord.

The fourth inconvenience.

As in this their finister doctrine they break this Principle of Christian Religion, which faith, that a man is justified by faith without workes, Rom. 3.28. so again it breaketh another Principle, namely, that to the word of 38

God neither must we adde nor take from it, Deut.4.2. For this rule being granted, that nothing is to be added to Gods word nor taken from it, then have these men done wickedly, in adding (as they doe) to Gods word; for whereas Gods word limiteth to our justification no condition but faith, (Saint Paul speaking to the cruell Jailor that beat the Apoltle, demanding of him in the bitternesse of his spirit, Sirs, good Sir, what must I doe to be faved? replied, Beleeve (faith he) on the Lord fesus Christ, and thou shalt be faved, and thine house. And they spake unto him the word of the Lord, and to all that were in his house. And he took them the same hour of the night, and washed their stripes, and was baptized, hee, and all his straight-way. And when hee had brought them into his house, he fet meat before them, and rejoyced, beleeving in God with all his house. Act. 16. 30,31,32, 33,34.) these Justiciaries doe adde thereunto divers and fundry other conditions befides, and fuch as the word of God precifely excludeth, as hope, charity, works of mercy to the poore needy brethren, the facrifice of the Masse, the worke of the Priest ex opere operato, auricular confession, satisfactions, meritorious deeds, or any other qualities or qualifications, or acts of humiliations, which are laid down as causes to be annexed unto the the bloud of Christ in point of Justification s. These things all true believers now esteeme them, with St. Paul, filth and dung, that they may gain Christ, and be found in him, not having their own righteousnesses, which is of the law, but that which is through the faith of Christ, the righteousnesses which is of Godby

faith. Phil. 3. 8,9.

0,31

And thus much concerning the doctrine of Faith and Justification; whereby it may appear, to what horrible blindnesse and blasphemy the Church of Rome is now fallen, where this kind of doctrine is not onely fuftered, but also publikely protested, with speaking against faith, thus blaspemously dare say, Fides illa, qua quis firmiter credit, & certo Statuit propier Christum sibiremissa esse peccata, sesegue posse furum vitam aternam, non fides est, sed temeritas; non Spiritus sancti persuasio, sed humane audacia prasumptio: That is, That faith whereby a man firmly beleeveth, and certainly affureth himselfe that for Christs sake his sins be forgiven him, and that he shall possesse eternall life, is not faith, but rashnesse; not the perswasion of the holy Spirit, but prefumption of mans boldnesse. Ez Lindano in epitome do Strina Evangelica. This Relation, as farre as it is Mr. Foxes, is truly word for word fet down, unlesse some doubtfull phrase were explained by the Writer, for the benefit of the curteous Reader, and hath (excepting the explanations) been feven times publikely Printed by Publike Authority.

Mr. Foxes Touchstone, to know Truth from Error, by certaine Principles and generall Verities, grounded upon the truth of Gods word.

The first Principle.

A s fin and death came originally by the disobedience of one, to all men of his generation by nature; so righteousnesse and life cometh originally by the obedience of one, to all men regenerated of him by faith and baptisme. Rom. 5. chap. Joh. 3.5.

II. The Promise of God was freely given to our first Parents, without their deserving, that, The seed of the woman should breake

the serpents head. Gen. 3.15.

III. The Promise was given freely to A. braham, before hee deserved any thing, that, In his seed all Nations should be blessed. Gen. 12.3. compared with Gal. 3.8.

IV. To the word of God neither must

wee adde, nor take from it. Dess. 4.2.

V. Hee

V. Hee that doth the works of the Law, Shall live therein. Levir. 18. Gal. 3.12.

VI. Accurfed is hee which abideth nor in every thing that is written in the book of the Law. Dent. 27. Gal. 3.10.

VII. God onely is to be worshipped. Deut. 6. Luke 4.

defiled or polluted rags. Esay 64.6. VIII. All our righteousnesse is like the

IX. In all my holy hill they shall not kill

Monor flay, faith the Lord. Esay 11.9.

1des X. God loveth mercy and obedience more than facrifice. Hof. 6.6. I Sam. 15.22.

XI. The Law worketh anger, condemn-

eth, and openeth fin. Rom. 3.20.

XII. The end of the Law is Christ for righteousnesse to every one that beleeveth. Ram. 10. 4.

XIII. Whosoever beleeveth, as zized, shall be saved. Mar. 16.16. XIII. Whofoever beleeveth, and is bap-

XIV. A man is justified by faith, without workes; freely, by grace, not of our felves. Gal. 2.16. Ephef. 2.8.

XV. There is no remission of sins with-

out bloud. Heb. 9.22.

XVI. Whatfoever is not of faith is finne. Rom. 14.23. Without faith it is impossible please God. Heb.11.6.

XVII. One Mediatour between God and man, Christ Jesus, I Tim. 2.5. And hee is

the

the propitiation for our finnes. 1 70h.2.2.

XVIII. Whofoever feeketh in the Laver to be justified, is fallen from grace. Gal. 5.4.

XIX. In Christ be all the promises of

God Est & Amen. 2 Cor. 1.20.

XX. Let every foule be subject to super our Powers. Rom. 13. 1. Giving to Cefa that which is Cefars; and to God, the

which is Gods. Mat. 22, 21.

These Principles, and infallible rules of th Scripture, as no man can deny, fo if the be granted, the doctrine then of the Pope Church must needs be found not to be Ca tholike, but rather full of Errors and Herefie Fox, in the book of Martyrs, Tom. 1. pag. 22 these are recorded, and have been seven time publikely imprinted.

Soli Deo Gratia.

FINIS.

The difference between Legall and Evangelicall Repentance.

Quest.

Hether a Beleever truely, and really entredinto the free Covenant of Grace,

made to him in Iesus Christ, upon the commission of an actuall known sin ought to believe the actuall pardon of that sin, before he actually repent for the same.

IN my discourse, and disputation concerning this point, I doe intend, through Gods gracious as fistance

The difference between Legall and sistance, to observe this order, and method:

First, I will rightly state the

question.

Secondly, I will positively so downe that which I conceive to be the truth.

Thirdly, I will answer such objections as are made by the opposites

Fourthly, fet downe a catechistical instruction, for the satisfaction

of the weake.

between an hypocrite, borne unde a Covenant of workes, and a fin cere-hearted beleever, begotten un der a Covenant of grace.

First, wee must know, that the stones of Gods Elect, under the New Testament, may be said to be actual ly pardoned in a foure-fold respect

1. In respect of Gods eternall de cree, which was before the world

began

ing of their finnes upon Iesus Christ which

which was done in the dayes of his flesh, in the time of his suffering.

3. In regard of actuall application of Christ and his righteousnesse, to believing souls, when God actually entreth into Covenant with them; causing them to lay hold upon Christ and his righteousnesse, by the hand of faith, either at their first conversion, or by renewed acts of faith, through the whole course of their lives.

4. In regard of sense, feeling, and experience; which is done by a notable worke of Gods providence, for by a sensible worke of his holy

pirit.

The question then is, Whether a Regenerate person, once in the Coevenant of grace made to him in Ieflus the Christ, upon the commission of some actuall knowne sinne,
lought, presently, by a renewed act
of faith in the Covenant of grace,
according to his former generals
grant, Heb. 8.12. I will be mercifull

B 2

The difference between Legall and to their unrighteousnesses, and their singuistes I will remember no more, given at his first entrance, be lieve that this sinne is their pardoned amongst the rest; or else should suspend his faith in this particular; no daring to believe, untill such time as he find himselse actually humble for that sinne.

Lastly, it must be observed that when wee affirme that regeneral persons ought in this case to believe before they repent; it is to be un derstood of a priority in nature, no in time; faith and repentance being both brought forth together.

They which fay repentance mult go before it in time; namely, repentance must goe between this sinne committed, and this act of faith, when by we believe that this sinne is par doned, either, as a ground to built our faith upon; or else, as a precedent signe, whereby we know, ware rightly qualified to receive par

don of our finnes; or else, have just right to believe that our finne is pardoned.

The question being thus stated, come unto the controversie propounded, and confidently affirme, That a Regenerate person, in this don of his finne, before he actualy repent for the same; and this I prove to be the truth of God, by hefe ensuing arguments.

1. This is the way that the Lord hath appointed, promifed, Covehanted, that his people shall take to get true, hearty, and unfaigned replaces of scripture; Zach. 12. 10,11, 12,13. Ezek.36. 29, 30, 31. Where the Lord promifeth, that when his people had grievoully finned against pim, by looking into the free Covemant of grace made to them in Iesus, whe Christ, and seeing, by faith in peirced Iesus, their sinnes are pardoned, shall mourne bitterly for them,

The difference betwen Legall and and loath themselves in their owne sight, for the iniquities, and sinnes they have committed.

6

of his word, faith, that he justifieth his children before they repent, or truely humble themselves, or doe any worke of righteousnesses; the Lord saith, hee justifieth the ungodly, Rom. 4.5. The Lord looketh upon his elect, when they are ungodly and freely giveth them Christ, and his righteousnesses and so justifieth them.

Againe, if the Lord should no justifie them, which are ungodly, he should justifie none; for by nature we are all ungodly, Ephes. 2, 3. 11 foh. 3. 6. So that in the moment in the which the Lord giveth me should him who for me helpeld him who for me

Zach. 12. peirced, to take away my iniquitie and reconcile me to God; as so imputeth me righteous, through the

ımpu.

Evangelicall Repentance. imputation of Christs righteousness, 2 Cor. 5. 21. I am ungodly.

Where is then repentance, or any act of humiliation, which must usher in faith? Indeed, in the very mo-ment which God doth justifie a man, he is godly; but this godlinesse is not an antecedent, but consequent:
as heate and fire were both produced together, though fire, in order of nature, goe before.

The Lord is reconciled unto us, when we are his enemies, Rom. 5. 10. In the very instant, when I am Gods enemie, he giveth me Christ, and is reconciled to me through his bloud. If I have any repentance, or humiliation before I am justified, it is but the humiliation of an enemie: the Lord complaineth of his people for breaking of his commandements, for wearying of him with their fins, yet will he even blot out their transgressions for his owne names sake, Esay. 43. 22, 23, 24, 25. Ezek. 36. 31. Though his Elect do no workes of righte-B 4

8

righteousnesse, but walke quite contrary unto Gods wayes; yet in Gods good time he calleth and justifieth them for his owne names sake: that which God affirmeth himself to do, that ought Gods children to believe

3. The Lord hath absolutely promised unto a believer that in that very day, which he actually entred into Covenant with him, that he will pardon his unrighteousnesse, and his sinne, and his iniquities will be remember no more, Heb. 8.12. Therefore a true Believer ought ever, after he is entred into Covenant, to believe affuredly, without wavering, that all his finnes are pardoned: and not. upon the commission of any fin fus pend his faith, till he have repented of it: Wee have the whole argument fet downe upon the matter Heb. 10.16. to the 23. v. If the Lord fay unto a finner all thy finnes are pardoned; there is no time, no not upon the commission of any actuall knowne finne, wherein I ought not

to

to believe, that all my finnes are pardoned; amongst the which, that which I now committed was one.

God saith all my sinnes are blotted out, Esay. 43.25. must I suspend my faith here, upon any occasion, and make God alyer; whether it were iniquitie, or unrighteousnesse, the Lord looked upon it, when he first liever; and the lord telleth him, for his mercies in his Christ, he will remember it no more; Heb. 10.17.18. Heb. 8. 12.

4. The children of God have al-wayes, yea presently, upon the com-4. The children of God have almission of some actuall knowne sin, fufficient cause, and ground to believe that all their fins are pardoned; yea, and amongst the rest, that which they lately committed; therfore they ought presently to believe, and not one moment to suspend their act of faith, in expectation of precedent repensance, or any penitential! ·act. That they have sufficient cause,

ing;

, fin

1121 ell

709

10

and

The difference between Legall and and ground to believe is evident from these places: All their sinnes, yea, and that very finne they now committed, was laid upon Christin the dayes of his suffering; the Lord laydon him the iniquitie of us all, Efay. 53. 6. It is actually blotted out, Efay. 43.25. so as God will remember them no more, Heb. 8. 12. None can condemne them, nor lay any thing to their charge: Who is he that shall lay any thing to the charge of Gods chosen? Rom. 8. 33, 38. Neither that fin, nor any other they shall commit (feeing they are kept by the power of God through faith to Salvation, I Peter 1.5.) Shall seperate them from the Lord; nor things present, nor things to come. This a Regenerate person ought fully to be perswaded of: I am perswaded, faith the Apostle: Where the Lord giveth present, and sufficient cause for a Christian to believe there hee ought not to suspend his faith.

5. It is the way of faith, and onely

mely the way of faith, in a proper ind a strict sense, to believe the bare word of God, without a figne or medium to perswade him to believe, pefides the word of God, whether be promises or threatnings; therfore a Regenerate person, once in Covenant, ought presently, without any of these fignes, confidently believe the word of God, in a promise, that saith thy sinnes are blotted out, Esay. 43.25. and that he will remember them no more, Heb. 8. 12. For thus faith the Lord to every one in Govenant, and thus faith the Sacra-Govenant, and thus faith the Sacra-ments, the feales of the Covenant, Act. 22. 16. Matth. 26. 28.

That this is the way of faith, it may appeare by that excellent description of faith, Heb. 11. 1. Faith is the sabstance of things hoped for, and the evidence of things not seene: wherby wee may plainely fee, that the object of faith, are things hoped for, and not feen. The Lord giveth our ·his word of promise for the pre-

rdi

200

ghi per esta

liel

10

fent

fent; I looke upon no argument, or medium to perswade me to believe, or cause me to affect: Faith is all the medium, or argument I have: faith maketh as cleare an evidence to me, as though I had ten thousand arguments; faith is my ground and evidence. When I see I am justified by repentance, or any other mark, signe, or qualification, or looke upon it as a medium, to perswade me so to thinke; this is not properly faith; but science rather, though drawne from principles believed.

That which Abraham was so commended for, was, because hee put forth such an act of faith directly, and immediatly beleeving Gods word; who against hope believed in hope, Rom. 4. 18. If hee would not have believed before he had seene some signe, this had argued weakness of faith; v. 19. to believe Gods promise without any argument besides, nay, contrary to reason, argued his strength of faith; v. 20, 21, 22.

If

If Abraham, having Gods promise, should have said thus, nay, but stay Lorda while, before I believe, I must lee my body stronger; it must be with Sarah my wife after the manner of women, otherwise I dare not believe; truly he had staggered at the promise through unbeliefe, and had not given glory to God. And he had not given glory to Goth. Which is in Covenant with God in which is in Covenant of promife, Christ, having a word of promise, though not extraordinary with Abraham, yet ordinary in the ministry of the Gospel, that all his fins are pardoned, yet, notwithstanding faith thus with himselfe, nay, but I will not believe, before I fee some signe, or fruit of my justification: should not such a one, thinke you, take a preposterous course, and dishonour God through unbeliefe. If we be Abrahams children, we must walke in the wayes of Abraham, and eak jod be doe the workes of Abraham; for it was not written for his fake alone, that it was imputed unto him, but

reel

for us also. If we believe on him, who raised up fesus our Lord from the dead, who was delivered for our offences, and raised againe for our justification, Rom.

4. 23, 24, 25.

6. For a Regenerate person, upon commission of fin, immediatly, and directly to have an eye to the Covenant of grace, and to believe the pardon of finne; for the same is the way to get fuch affurance as bringeth true and folid comfort unto him. Such a course was taken to heale men stung of the fiery scorpion; they were to looke on the brasen ferpent, if once, twice, nay, feven times a day; to often as they were stunge, so often looking were healed. Numb. 21. 8. fob. 3. 14. This the Apostle exhorted the Hebrews unto in the like case; they had backflided, and come neere unto the fin. unto the fin against the holy Spirit; the root of all this (as it should seem) was infidelity; therefore he exhorted them to use all dilligence to attaine

Evangelicall Repentance.

taine to a full assurance of faith, and to believe whatfoever was contained in the Covenant of free grace; of which, remission of sinnes is one maine thing. But how shall they come to this affurance ? Even by I laying fast hold upon the Covenant, confirmed by an oath; by faith, the fly ankor of the foule, and thither to to get strong consolation, Heb. 6. 18,19. We must therefore, upon our sinning, fly by a true and lively faith, unto the free Covenant of grace, made and ratified to us in the bloud of Christ; and thence fetch pardon, and folid comfort and consolation. Wel

7. Meerely, or primarily to believe, and be perswaded of blessednesse, or of remission of sinnes, upon sight of precedent repentance, or workes of righteousnesse in themselves, is the way of Naturalists, Papists, Formalists, Hypocrites; and therfore is not a way to be taken up by Christians. Did not Aristotle, and

hea Th

you

ack fin

irit

ep

divers

divers other Phylosophers, teach men to conclude their happinesse from well living, and well doing Do not the Papists make repentance not onely the precedent cause, but alfothe meritorious cause of forgive nesse, to such as are fallen into fin after Baptisme; denying any ordi nary affurance, in an ordinary way then morrall, and conjecturall by fignes? Do not formall professors amongst us, generally reason thus, wee repent, humble our selves for our finnes, and walke in the way of obedience: and therefore we must needs have faith, and be justified, neither can they believe further, then they can see themselves work ? Doe we not read in Gods word, that hypocrites builded their faith upon their workes; or elfe, if they trust in Gods mercie (as they suppose) it is because they imagine, they find themselves rightly qualified by their workes? Are not these their very words? Have we not prophesied in thy name ?

name? and in thy name have wee not cast out devils? Matth. 7. 22. Wee have fasted, and afflicted our soules, and thou seest it not. Esay. 58. 3. We have endured the heate, and the burden of the day, saith the Mercenary, Matth. 20.12. None of these can see themselves blessed, or justified without works.

8. To put repentance before faith in this case mentioned, doth thwart many divine precepts given to Gods children in his holy word; as al-wayes to be confident; Heb. 10.35. To hold fast the considence, and rejoyceing of the hope, firme unto the end, Heb. 3. 6. To rejoyce evermore, Phil. 4. 4. To make our boast of God all the day long, Psal. 44.8. For it taketh away the ground, upon which the confidence of the ground, upon which the confidence of the ground. dence, and rejoycing of David, and all true Believers is built; namely, his free Covenant of grace made to us in Iesus, the Christ: wherein he removeth our transgressions from us, as farre as the East is from the West, Pfal 103.12. How can a Regenerate person constantly persorme all these duties, when he must not all wayes be assured that all his sins are pardoned; but interrupt his considence in this particular, untill such time as he hath stirred up in himself some penetentiall acts. What shall he doe, when he sindeth in himself nothing but stubbornenesse, rebellion, repining, murmuring, blass phemy; for thus it salleth out many times, the Lord knoweth, with his dearest children; as with fob, Daniel vid, Feremiah, and others.

9. This Doctrine of humbling ones selfe for sin committed, (before a regenerate person presumett to believe the pardon of that sin, causeth the childe of God to be ever at an uncertainty concerning the pardon of his sinne; and must alwayes have his conscience mise rably racked, and tormented; now what you mean by an actual known sinne, I doe not well understand, for mine owne part, I know that I

finac

finne every moment: I know that in mee, that is, in my flesh, (as holy Paul acknowledgeth) dwelleth no good thing, Rom. 7. 18. Beside my originall fin, I have continuall acquall fins budding forth; covetuousness, uncleanenesse, pride, anger, impatiencie, rash speeches, infidelity. I must then (as it seemeth to me) put forth fundry acts of humiliation, before I believe the pardon of these finnes; and fo runne ad infinitum: there will be little time left for faith of assurance to be exercised in, according to the Covenant of promise made to us in Iesus, the Christ; and foto be a barre to spirituall joy. For before I can get my felfe sufficiently humbled for one sinne, another will break forth; if not twenty; none of which I must believe to be pardoned, before I be actually humbled for them. Doe wee not fee into what a laborynth this precedent repentance hath brought us. Besides admir, that this Popish actuall, mortall 20

finne (which is here spoken of) be committed but once in ones life time; how shall a Regenerate perfon ever know, when his repentance that formeth his faith, is true; or when he is come to fuch a degree of humiliation, that hee may affure himselfe that his since is pardoned and that hee may fafely believe? which degree, if his repentance had nor reached unto, his faith had been but prefumption. Had not one a great deale better, according to the Lords command, come without money, than bring fuch coyne, about the currantnesse, or summe whereof, a man shall be inexplicably perplex ed : when a man is a great deale better welcome to leave these, and come without them; Efay. 55. 1, 2, 3. But this is Gods curfe upon fuch bywayes: Behold all yee that kindle a fire. that compasse about your selves with the (parkles, and malke in the light of the fire, and the sparkes that ye have kindled; this yee shall have of my hand; 760

Tee Shall lye downe in forrow, E fay . 50. money of humiliation, and of re-pentance, not to tender unto the Lord for a price, but onely for him. to looke upon, as that he hath appointed for them to be qualified withall, of them that come. Nay, but if the Lord faith, thou must not come with it, what must then bee done why, incline your cares, and beare, faith the Lord; come unto me, beare, and your soules shall live; what is that wee must heare? I will make an evenlasting Covenant with you, even the fure mercies of David, Efay. 53. 3. The Lord doth call his people from the wayes of repensance, and humiliation, and workes of righteoutnesse in the point of justification; and immediatly, and directly, doth cause his people to pitch upon the free Covenant of grace made to them in Iesus, the Christ.

pentance doth certainely inferre,

and

and imply, that every childe of God must of necessitie die without the assurance of the pardon of all his sinnes.

Now, that no man by this do. Etrine (of humbling a mans felfe for fin committed, before one prefume to believe the actuall pardon of it) can be affured of the pardon of all

his finnes: It thus appeareth.

Every Believer, or Regenerate person, sinneth in the last act of faith, and repentance, that ever hee put forth: themore graceany one hath. the lower, and the unworthier he is in his owne eye; and the more he perceiveth with Paul, Rom. 7.18,19, 20. he cannot do the good he would: he must not then assure himselfe his last sinne is pardoned, before he hath humbled himselfe for it, unlesse it be after his death; neither can hee get ever affurance of the pardon of that sinne, except it be after hee is dead: This must necessarily follow, unlesse they maintaine the distinctiFor Popish doctrine cannot be upheld without Popish principles.

11. This opinion of precedent repentance cannot bee defended, but from this unfound, and rotten ground; to wit, that pardon of fin is granted in the Covenant, upon the condition of antecedent repentance. Not much differing from that, which Bellarmin laboureth to defend;
namely, that Evangelicall promifes
are made upon condition of fulfilling the law; which opinion Camierius confuting, affirmeth, and that truly, that there is no antecedent but only the consequent. If the Co-venant of grace, in the pardon of finne, made to Gods elect, did run thus, I will pardon all your fins; but yee must first repent before yee lay any claime unto this pardon: then of necessity they must first repent of every finne, before they presume to put forth any act of faith, Rind C 4

in the Covenant of grace, for the pardon of them; then were the do. Crine true the opposites affirm, and that false I defend: But the Covenant of grace, made to Gods Elea. is absolute, Heb. 8. 10, 11, 12. abso. lurely promifing pardon of finne to all that believe, Att. 13.38, 39. Repentance followeth as an effect flow. ing from this pardon, Ezek. 36. 29. 30. Zach. 12. 10. So that if any will call repentance a condition of pardon of finne, they must call it a condition consequent, not antecedent. If any will have repentance goebefore pardon of finne, they erre, not knowing the (criptures, nor the power of God. They never felt the power of God in a sensible apprehersion of pardon of finne; for if they had, they should experimentally know, what belongeth unto the Covenant of grace. They would find the fcriptures, wherein the Covenant of grace is laid downe, made good upon the foules; they should find repentance no antecedent, but a consequent worke: they should not need to read many Commentaries upon Zach. 12. 10. Ezek. 36. 25. to the 31. Fer. 31. Heb. 8. 10, 11, 12, 13. Heb. 10. 18, 19, 20, 21, 22. for the meaning of these texts, wherin the New Covenant of grace is contained. They should have a School-Master to direct them; even the unction from the holy one, the holy spirit, which would teach them, 1 fob. 2.27. they would find free accesse to the throne of Grace, without qualifying repentance. Therefore, fince this opinion stands tottering upon a Popish rotten foundation, and can no other-wayes be futtained; It is not the way which a Regenerate perform must walke in.

Having now confirmed by fundry arguments that which I believe affuredly to be the truth: I come in the fecond place to answer such objections, as are made by the adver-

faries.

m of

Hiral

chel

hey

org