
A SELECT LIBRARY
OF THE
**NICENE AND
POST-NICENE FATHERS**
OF
THE CHRISTIAN CHURCH.

SECOND SERIES

TRANSLATED INTO ENGLISH WITH PROLEGOMENA AND EXPLANATORY NOTES.

VOLUMES I-VII.

UNDER THE EDITORIAL SUPERVISION OF

PHILIP SCHAFF, D.D., LL.D.,

PROFESSOR OF CHURCH HISTORY IN THE UNION THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY, NEW YORK.

AND

HENRY WACE, D.D.,

PRINCIPAL OF KING'S COLLEGE, LONDON.

VOLUME VII

CYRIL OF JERUSALEM, GREGORY NAZIANZEN

T&T CLARK

EDINBURGH

WM. B. EERDMANS PUBLISHING COMPANY

GRAND RAPIDS, MICHIGAN

THE
CATECHETICAL LECTURES
OF
S. CYRIL,
ARCHBISHOP OF JERUSALEM,

WITH A REVISED TRANSLATION, INTRODUCTION, NOTES, AND INDICES,

BY

EDWIN HAMILTON GIFFORD, D.D.

FORMERLY ARCHDEACON OF LONDON, AND CANON OF S. PAUL'S.

vii

Preface.

THE present translation of the Catechetical Lectures of S. Cyril of Jerusalem is based on a careful revision of the English translation published in the "Library of the Fathers of the Holy Catholic Church," with a most interesting Preface by John Henry Newman, dated from Oxford, The Feast of St. Matthew, 1838.

In his Preface Mr. Newman stated with respect to the translation "that for almost the whole of it the Editors were indebted to Mr. Church, Fellow of Oriel College." Mr. Church was at that time a very young man, having taken his First Class in Michaelmas Term, 1836; and this his first published work gave abundant promise of that peculiar felicity of expression, which made him in maturer life one of the most perfect masters of the English tongue. Having received full liberty to make such use of his translation as I might deem most desirable for the purpose of the present Edition, I have been obliged to exercise my own judgment both in preserving much of Dean Church's work unaltered, and in revising it wherever the meaning of the original appeared to be less perfectly expressed.

In this constant study and use of Dean Church's earliest work I have had always before my mind a grateful and inspiring remembrance of one whose friendship it was my great privilege to enjoy during the few last saddened years of his saintly and noble life.

In the notes of the Edition one of my chief objects has been to illustrate S. Cyril's teaching by comparing it with the works of earlier Fathers to whom he may have been indebted, and with the writings of his contemporaries.

In the chapters of the Introduction which touch on S. Cyril's doctrines of Baptism, Chrism, and the Holy Eucharist, I have not attempted either to criticise or to defend his teaching, but simply to give as faithful a representation as I could of his actual meaning. The Eastern Church had long before S. Cyril's day, and still has its own peculiar Sacramental doctrines, which, notwithstanding the efforts of rival theologians, can never be reduced to exact conformity with the tenets of our own or other Western Churches.

The Indices have been revised, and large additions made to the lists of Greek words,

E.H.G.

OXFORD,

26 May, 1893.

ix

Introduction.

Chapter I.—Life of S. Cyril.

The works of S. Cyril of Jerusalem owe much of their peculiar interest and value to the character of the times in which he wrote. Born a few years before the outbreak of

Arianism in A.D. 318, he lived to see its suppression by the Edict of Theodosius, 380, and to take part in its condemnation by the Council of Constantinople in the following year.

The story of Cyril's life is not told in detail by any contemporary author; in his own writings there is little mention of himself; and the Church historians refer only to the events of his manhood and old age. We have thus no direct knowledge of his early years, and can only infer from the later circumstances of his life what may probably have been the nature of his previous training. The names of his parents are quite unknown; but in the Greek *Menæa*, or monthly catalogues of Saints, and in the Roman Martyrology for the 18th day of March, Cyril is said to have been "born of pious parents, professing the orthodox Faith, and to have been bred up in the same, in the reign of Constantine." This account of his parentage and education derives some probability from the fact that Cyril nowhere speaks as one who had been converted from paganism or from any heretical sect. His language at the close of the viith Lecture seems rather to be inspired by gratitude to his own parents for a Christian education: "The first virtuous observance in a Christian is to honour his parents, to requite their trouble, and to provide with all his power for their comfort: for however much we may repay them, yet we can never be to them what they as parents have been to us. Let them enjoy the comfort we can give, and strengthen us with blessings."

One member only of Cyril's family is mentioned by name, his sister's son Gelasius, who was appointed by Cyril to be Bishop of Cæsarea on the death of Acacius, A.D. 366 *circ.*

Cyril himself was probably born, or at least brought up, in or near Jerusalem, for it was usual to choose a Bishop from among the Clergy over whom he was to preside, a preference being given to such as were best known to the people generally¹.

That Cyril, whether a native of Jerusalem or not, had passed a portion of his childhood there, is rendered probable by his allusions to the condition of the Holy Places before they were cleared and adorned by Constantine and Helena. He seems to speak as an eye-witness of their former state, when he says that a few years before the place of the Nativity at Bethlehem had been wooded², that the place where Christ was crucified and buried was a garden, of which traces were still remaining³, that the wood of the Cross had been distributed to all nations⁴, and

that before the decoration of the Holy Sepulchre by Constantine, there was a cleft or cave before the door of the Sepulchre, hewn out of the

¹Bingham, *The Antiquities of the Christian Church*, Book II. c. 10, § 2.

²Cat. xii. 20. The wood had been cleared away about sixteen years before this Lecture was delivered.

³Cat. xiii. 32; xiv. 5.

⁴Cat. iv. 10; x. 19; xiii. 4. Gregor. Nyss. *Baptism of Christ*, p. 520, in this Series: "The wood of the Cross is of saving efficacy for all men, though it is, as I am informed, a piece of a poor tree, less valuable than most trees are."

x

rock itself, but now no longer to be seen, because the outer cave had been cut away for the sake of the recent adornments¹.

This work was undertaken by Constantine after the year 326 A.D.²; and if Cyril spoke from remembrance of what he had himself seen, he could hardly have been less than ten or twelve years old, and so must have been born not later, perhaps a few years earlier, than 315 A.D.

The tradition that Cyril had been a monk and an ascetic was probably founded upon the passages in which he seems to speak as one who had himself belonged to the order of Solitaries, and shared the glory of chastity³. We need not, however, suppose that the "Solitaries" (μονάζοντες) of whom he speaks were either hermits living in remote and desert places, or monks secluded in a monastery: they commonly lived in cities, only in separate houses, and frequented the same Churches with ordinary Christians. To such a life of perpetual chastity, strict asceticism, and works of charity, Cyril may probably, in accordance with the custom of the age, have been devoted from early youth.

A more important question is that which relates to the time and circumstances of his ordination as Deacon, and as Priest, matters closely connected with some of the chief troubles of his later life.

That he was ordained Deacon by Macarius, Bishop of Jerusalem, who died in 334 or 335, may be safely inferred from the unfriendly notice of S. Jerome, *Chron.* ann. 349 (350 A.D.): "Cyril having been ordained Priest by Maximus, and after his death permitted by Acacius, Bishop of Cæsarea, and the other Arian Bishops, to be made Bishop on condition of repudiating his ordination by Maximus, served in the Church as a Deacon: and after he had been paid for this impiety by the reward of the Episcopate (*Sacerdotii*), he by various plots harassed Heraclius, whom Maximus when dying had substituted in his own place, and degraded him from Bishop to Priest."

From this account, incredible as it is in the main, and strongly marked by personal prejudice, we may conclude that Cyril had been ordained Deacon not by Maximus, but by his predecessor Macarius; for otherwise he would have been compelled to renounce his Deacon's Orders, as well as his Priesthood.

Macarius died in or before the year 335; for at the Council of Tyre, assembled in that year to condemn Athanasius, Maximus sat as successor to Macarius in the See of Jerusalem⁴. This date is confirmed by the fact that after the accession of Maximus, a great assembly of Bishops was held at Jerusalem in the year 335, for the dedication of the Church of the Holy Resurrection⁵.

It thus appears that Cyril's ordination as Deacon cannot be put later than 334 or the beginning of 335.

Towards the close of the latter year the Bishops who had deposed Athanasius at the Council of Tyre proceeded to Jerusalem "to celebrate the *Tricennalia* of Constantine's reign by consecrating his grand Church on Mount Calvary⁶." On that occasion "Jerusalem became the gathering point for distinguished prelates from every province, and the whole city was thronged by a vast assemblage of the servants of God.....In short, the whole of Syria and Mesopotamia, Phœnicia and Arabia, Palestine, Egypt, and Libya, with the dwellers in the Thebaid, all

contributed to swell the mighty concourse of God's ministers, followed as they were by vast numbers from every province. They were attended by an imperial escort, and officers of trust had also been sent from the palace itself, with instructions to heighten the splendour of the festival at the Emperor's expense¹. Eusebius proceeds to describe

¹Cat. xiv. 9.

²Eusebius; *Vita Const.* iii. 29 ff.

³Cat. xii. 1, 33, 34. Compare iv. 24, note 8.

⁴Hefele, *History of Councils*, ii. 17; Sozom. *H. E.* ii. 25.

⁵Euseb. *Vita Const.* iv. 43.

⁶Robertson, *Prolegomena to Athanasius*, p. xxxix.

⁷Euseb. *V. C.* iv. 43.

the splendid banquets, the lavish distribution of money and clothes to the naked and destitute, the offerings of imperial magnificence, the "intellectual feast" of the many Bishops' discourses, and last, not least, his own "various public orations pronounced in honour of this solemnity." Among the Clergy taking part in this gorgeous ceremony, the newly ordained Deacon of the Church of Jerusalem would naturally have his place. It was a scene which could not fail to leave a deep impression on his mind, and to influence his attitude towards the contending parties in the great controversy by which the Church was at this time distracted. He knew that Athanasius had just been deposed, he had seen Arius triumphantly restored to communion in that august assembly of Bishops "from every province," with his own Bishop Maximus, and Eusebius of Cæsarea, the Metropolitan, at their head. It is much to the praise of his wisdom and steadfastness that he was not misled by the notable triumph of the Arians to join their faction or adopt their tenets.

In September, 346, Athanasius returning from his second exile at Trèves passed through Jerusalem. The aged Bishop Maximus, who had been induced to acquiesce in the condemnation of Athanasius at Tyre, and in the solemn recognition of Arius at Jerusalem, had afterwards refused to join the Eusebians at Antioch in 341, for the purpose of confirming the sentence passed at Tyre, and now gave a cordial welcome to Athanasius, who thus describes his reception¹: "As I passed through Syria, I met with the Bishops of Palestine, who, when they had called a Council at Jerusalem, received me cordially, and themselves also sent me on my way in peace, and addressed the following letter to the Church and the Bishops²." The letter congratulating the Egyptian Bishops and the Clergy and people of Alexandria on the restoration of their Bishop is signed first by Maximus, who seems to have acted without reference to the Metropolitan Acacius, successor of Eusebius as Bishop of Cæsarea, and a leader of the Arians, a bitter enemy of Athanasius. Though Cyril in his writings never mentions Athanasius or Arius by name, we can hardly doubt that, as Touttée suggests³, he must at this time have had an opportunity of learning the true character of the questions in dispute between the parties of the great heresiarch and his greater adversary.

We have already learned from Jerome that Cyril was admitted to the Priesthood by Maximus. There is no evidence of the exact date of his ordination: but we may safely assume that he was a Priest of some years' standing, when the important duty of preparing the candidates for Baptism was intrusted to him in or about the year 348⁴. There appears to be no authority for the statement (*Dict. Chr. Antiq.* "Catechumens," p. 319 a), that the *Catecheses* of Cyril of Jerusalem were delivered by him partly as a Deacon, partly as a Presbyter⁵."

At the very time of delivering the lectures, Cyril was also in the habit of preaching to the general congregation on the Lord's day⁶, when the candidates for Baptism were especially required to be present⁷. In the Church of Jerusalem it was still the custom for sermons to be preached by several Presbyters in succession, the Bishop preaching last. From Cyril's *Homily on the Paralytic* (§ 20) we learn that he preached immediately before the Bishop, and so must have held a distinguished position among the Priests. This is also implied in the fact, that

within three or four years after delivering his Catechetical Lectures to the candidates for Baptism, he was chosen to succeed Maximus in the See of Jerusalem.

The date of his consecration is approximately determined by his own letter to Constantius concerning the appearance of a luminous cross in the sky at Jerusalem. The letter was written on the 7th of May, 351, and is described by Cyril as the first-fruit of his Episcopate. He must therefore have been consecrated in 350, or early in 351.

¹*Apolog. contra Arian.* § 57.

²*Cf. Athan. Hist. Arian.* § 25.

³Introductory note to Cyril's Letter to Constantius, § x.

⁴On the exact date of the Lectures, see below, ch. ix.

⁵See more below on the office of "Catechist," ch. ii. § 2.

⁶*Cat. x.* 14.

⁷*Cat. i.* 6.

Socrates and Sozomen agree in the assertion that Acacius, Patrophilus the Arian Bishop of Scythopolis, and their adherents ejected Maximus and put Cyril in his place¹. But according to the statement of Jerome already quoted² Maximus, when dying, had not only nominated Heraclius to be his successor, which, with the consent of the Clergy and people was not unusual, but had actually established him as Bishop in his stead (*in suum locum substituerat*). The two accounts are irreconcilable, and both improbable. Touttée argues not without reason, that the consecration of Heraclius, which Jerome attributes to Maximus, would have been opposed to the right of the people and Clergy to nominate their own Bishop, and to the authority of the Metropolitan and other Bishops of the province, by whom the choice was to be confirmed and the consecration performed, and that it had moreover been expressly forbidden seven years before by the 23rd Canon of the Council of Antioch.

Still more improbable is the charge that Cyril had renounced the priesthood conferred on him by Maximus, and after serving in the Church as a Deacon, had been rewarded by the Episcopate, and then himself degraded Heraclius from Bishop to Priest. As a solution of these difficulties, it is suggested by Reischl³ that Cyril had been designated in the lifetime of Maximus as his successor, and after his decease had been duly and canonically consecrated, but had incurred the calumnious charges of the party opposed to Acacius and the Eusebians, because he was supposed to have bound himself to them by accepting consecration at their hands. This view is in some measure confirmed by the fact that "in the great controversy of the day Cyril belonged to the Asiatic party, Jerome to that of Rome. In the Meletian schism also they took opposite sides, Cyril supporting Meletius, Jerome being a warm adherent of Paulinus⁴," by whom he had been recently ordained Priest. It is also worthy of notice that Jerome's continuation of the Chronicle of Eusebius was written at Constantinople in 380–381, the very time when the many injurious charges fabricated by Cyril's bitter enemies were most industriously circulated in popular rumour on the eve of a judicial inquiry by the second general Council which met there in 381, under the presidency of Meletius, Cyril, and Gregory of Nazianzum⁵. Had Jerome written of Cyril a year or two later, he must have known that these calumnies had been emphatically rejected by the Synod of Constantinople (382) consisting of nearly the same Bishops who had been present at the Council of the preceding year. In their Synodical letter⁶ to Pope Damasus they wrote: "And of the Church in Jerusalem, which is the Mother of all the Churches, we notify that the most reverend and godly Cyril is Bishop: who was long ago canonically appointed by the Bishops of the Province, and had many conflicts in various places against the Arians."

The beginning of Cyril's Episcopate was marked by the appearance of a bright Cross in the sky, about nine o'clock in the morning of Whitsunday, the 7th of May, 351 A.D. Brighter than the sun, it hung over the hill of Golgotha, and

extended to Mount Olivet, being visible for many hours. The whole population of Jerusalem, citizens and foreigners, Christians and Pagans, young and old, flocked to the Church, singing the praises of Christ, and hailing the phenomenon as a sign from heaven confirming the truth of the Christian religion.

Cyril regarded the occasion as favourable for announcing to the Emperor Constantius the commencement of his Episcopate; and in his extant letter described the sign as a proof of God's favour towards the Empire and its Christian ruler. The piety of his father Constantine had been rewarded by the discovery of the true Cross and the Holy places: and now the greater devotion of the Son had won a more signal manifestation of Divine approval.

¹Socr. *H. E.* ii. 38; Soz. iv. 20. The Bishops of Palestine, except two or three, had received Athanasius most cordially a few years before (Athanas. *Hist. Arian.* § 25).

²p. ii.

³Vol. I. p. xli. note.

⁴*Dict. Chr. Biogr.* "Cyrillus," p. 761: and for the Meletian Schism, see "Meletius," "Paulinus," "Vitalius."

⁵Hefele, ii. 344.

⁶Theodoret, *Hist. Eccl.* v. 9.

xiii

The letter ends with a prayer that God may grant to the Emperor long to reign as the protector of the Church and of the Empire, "ever glorifying the Holy and Consubstantial Trinity, our true God." The word ὁμοούσιον, it is alleged, had not at this time been accepted by Cyril, and its use has therefore been thought to cast doubt upon the genuineness of this final prayer, which is nevertheless maintained by the Benedictine Editor¹. The letter as a whole is certainly genuine, and the phenomenon is too strongly attested by the historians of the period to be called in question. While, therefore, we must reject Cyril's explanation, we have no reason to suspect him of intentional misrepresentation. A parhelion, or other remarkable phenomenon, of which the natural cause was at that time unknown, might well appear "to minds excited by the struggle between the Christian Faith and a fast-declining heathenism to be a miraculous manifestation of the symbol of Redemption, intended to establish the Faith and to confute its gainsayers²."

The first few years of Cyril's episcopate fell within that so-called "Golden Decade," 346–355, which is otherwise described as "an uneasy interval of suspense rather than of peace³." Though soon to be engaged in a dispute with Acacius concerning the privileges of their respective Sees, Cyril seems to have been in the interval zealous and successful in promoting the peace and prosperity of his own Diocese.

We learn from a letter of Basil the Great that he had visited Jerusalem about the year 357, when he had been recently baptized, and was preparing to adopt a life of strict asceticism. He speaks of the many saints whom he had there embraced, and of the many who had fallen on their knees before him, and touched his hands as holy⁴,—signs, as Touttée suggests, of a flourishing state of religion and piety. Cyril's care for the poor, and his personal poverty, were manifested by an incident, of which the substantial truth is proved by the malicious use to which it was afterwards perverted. "Jerusalem and the neighbouring region being visited with a famine, the poor in great multitudes, being destitute of necessary food, turned their eyes upon Cyril as their Bishop. As he had no money to succour them in their need, he sold the treasures and sacred veils of the Church. It is said, therefore, that some one recognised an offering of his own as worn by an actress on the stage, and made it his business to inquire whence she had it, and found that it had been sold to her by a merchant, and to the merchant by the Bishop⁵."

This was one of the charges brought against Cyril in the course of the disputes between himself and Acacius, which had commenced soon after he had been installed in the Bishopric of Jerusalem. As Bishop of Cæsarea, Acacius exercised Metropolitan jurisdiction over the Bishops of Palestine. But Cyril, as presiding over an Apostolic See, "the Mother of all the Churches," claimed exemption from the jurisdiction of Cæsarea, and higher rank than its

Bishop. It is not alleged, nor is it in any way probable, that Cyril claimed also the jurisdiction over other Bishops. The rights and privileges of his See had been clearly defined many years before by the 7th Canon of the Council of Nicæa: "As custom and ancient tradition shew that the Bishop of Ælia ought to be honoured, let him have precedence in honour, without prejudice to the proper dignity of the Metropolitan See." Eusebius⁶, in reference to a Synod concerning the time of Easter, says: "There is still extant a writing of those who were then assembled in Palestine (about 200 A.D.), over whom Theophilus, Bishop of Cæsarea, and Narcissus, Bishop of Jerusalem, presided." If one Synod only is here meant, it would appear that the Bishop of Cæsarea took precedence of the Bishop of Jerusalem, which would be the natural order in a Synod held at Cæsarea. Bishop Hefele, however, takes a different view⁷: "According to the *Synodicon*, two Synods were held in Palestine on the

¹*Epist. ad Constantium*—Monitum, § x.

²*Dict. Chr. Biogr.* p. 761.

³Gwatkin, p. 74.

⁴*Epist. iv.* p. 12.

⁵*Sozom. H. E. iv.* 25.

⁶*Hist. Eccl. v.* 23.

⁷*History of the Christian Councils*, Book I. Sec. ii. c.

subject of the Easter controversy: the one at Jerusalem presided over by Narcissus, and composed of fourteen Bishops; and the other at Cæsarea, comprising twelve Bishops, and presided over by Theophilus." In confirmation of this view we may observe that when next Eusebius mentions Narcissus and Theophilus, he reverses the previous order, and names the Bishop of Jerusalem first.

However this may have been, Acacius, who as an Arian was likely to have little respect for the Council of Nicæa, seems to have claimed both precedence and jurisdiction over Cyril. From¹ Socrates we learn that Cyril was frequently summoned to submit to the judgment of Acacius, but for two whole years refused to appear. He was therefore deposed by Acacius and the other Arian Bishops of Palestine on the charge of having sold the property of the Church, as before mentioned. Socrates, who confesses that he does not know for what Cyril was accused, yet suggests that he was afraid to meet the accusations². But Theodoret, a more impartial witness, says³ that Acacius took advantage of some slight occasion (ἄφορμάς) and deposed him. Sozomen⁴ also describes the accusation as a pretext (ἐπὶ προφάσει τοῦ ἁγίου), and the deposition as hastily decreed, to forestall any countercharge of heresy by Cyril (φθάνει καθελῶν). The deposition was quickly followed by Cyril's expulsion from Jerusalem, and a certain Eutychius was appointed to succeed him⁵. Passing by Antioch, which at this time, 357–358, was left without a Bishop by the recent decease of the aged Arian Leontius Castratus⁶, Cyril took refuge in Tarsus with its Bishop the "admirable Silvanus," "one of the Semi-Arians," who, as Athanasius testifies, agreed almost entirely with the Nicene doctrine, only taking offence at the expression ὁμοούσιος, because in their opinion it contained latent Sabellianism⁷. Cyril now sent to the Bishops who had deposed him a formal notice that he appealed to a higher Court (μειζον ἐπεκαλέσατο δικαστήριον), and his appeal was approved by the Emperor Constantius⁸. Acacius, on learning the place of Cyril's retreat, wrote to Silvanus announcing his deposition. But Silvanus out of respect both to Cyril, and to the people, who were delighted with his teaching, still permitted him to exercise his ministry in the Church. Socrates finds fault with Cyril for his appeal: "In this," he says, "he was the first and only one who acted contrary to the custom of the Ecclesiastical Canon, by having recourse to appeals as in a civil court." The reproach implied in this statement is altogether undeserved. The question, as Touttée argues, is not whether others had done the like before or after, but whether Cyril's appeal was in accordance with natural justice, and the custom of the Church. On the latter point he refers to the case of the notorious heretic Photinus, who after being condemned in many Councils appealed to the Emperor, and was allowed to dispute in his presence with Basil the Great as his opponent. Athanasius himself, in circumstances very similar to Cyril's,

declined to appear before Eusebius and a Synod of Arian Bishops at Cæsarea, by whom he was condemned A.D. 334, and appealed in person to Constantine, requesting either that a lawful Council of Bishops might be assembled, or that the Emperor would himself receive his defence.⁹”

In justification of Cyril's appeal it is enough to say that it was impossible for him to submit to the judgment of Acacius and his Arian colleagues. They could not be impartial in a matter where the jurisdiction of Acacius their president, and his unsoundness in the Faith, were as much in question as any of the charges brought against Cyril. He took the only course open to him in requesting the Emperor to remit his case to the higher juris

¹*Hist. Eccl.* ii. 40.

²*Ib.*

³*Ib.* ii. 26.

⁴*H. E.* iv. 25.

⁵There is much uncertainty and confusion in the names of the Bishops who succeeded Cyril on the three occasions of his being deposed. His successor in 357 is said by Jerome to have been a certain Eutychius, probably the same who was afterwards excommunicated at Seleucia (*Dict. Chr. Biogr.* Eutychius 13). The subject is discussed at length by Touttée (*Diss.* I. vii.).

⁶See the account of his remarkable career in the *Dict. Chr. Biogr.*

⁷Athan. *De Synodis*, c. xii.; Hefele, ii. 262.

⁸Socrates, *H. E.* ii. 40.

⁹Athan. *contr. Arianos Apol.* c. 36: Hefele, ii. p. 27, note.

diction of a greater Council, and in giving formal notice of this appeal to the Bishops who had expelled him.

While the appeal was pending, Cyril became acquainted with “the learned Bishop, Basil of Ancyra” (Hefele), with Eustathius of Sebaste in Armenia, and George of Laodicea, the chief leaders of the party “usually (since Epiphanius), but with some injustice, designated Semi-Arian¹.” One of the charges brought against Cyril in the Council of Constantinople (360, A.D.) was, as we shall see, that he held communion with these Bishops.

Cyril had not long to wait for the hearing of his appeal. In the year 359 the Eastern Bishops met at Seleucia in Isauria, and the Western at Ariminum. Constantius had at first wished to convene a general Council of all the Bishops of the Empire, but this intention he was induced to abandon by representations of the long journeys and expense, and he therefore directed the two Synods then assembled at Ariminum and at Seleucia “the Rugged” to investigate first the disputes concerning the Faith, and then to turn their attention to the complaints of Cyril, and other Bishops against unjust decrees of deposition and banishment². This order of proceeding was discussed, and after much controversy adopted on the first day of meeting, the 27th of September³. On the second day Acacius and his friends refused to remain unless the Bishops already deposed, or under accusation, were excluded. Theodoret relates that “several friends of peace tried to persuade Cyril of Jerusalem to withdraw, but that, as he would not comply, Acacius left the assembly⁴.” Three days afterwards, according to Sozomen, a third meeting was held at which the demand of Acacius was complied with; “for the Bishops of the opposite party were determined that he should have no pretext for dissolving the Council, which was evidently his object in order to prevent the impending examination of the heresy of Aëtius and of the accusations which had been brought against him and his partisans⁵.” A creed put forward by Acacius having been rejected, he refused to attend any further meetings, though repeatedly summoned to be present at an investigation of his own charges against Cyril.

In the end Acacius and many of his friends were deposed or excommunicated. Some of these, however, in defiance of the sentence of the Council, returned to their dioceses, as did also the majority who had deposed them.

It is not expressly stated whether any formal decision on the case of Cyril was adopted by the Council: but as his name does not appear in the lists of those who were deposed or excommunicated, it is certain that he was not condemned. It is most probable that the charges against him were disregarded after his accuser Acacius had refused to appear, and that he returned, like the others, to his diocese. But he was not to be left long in peace. Acacius and some of his party had hastened to Constantinople, where they gained over to their cause the chief men attached to the palace, and through their influence secured the favour of Constantius, and roused his anger against the majority of the Council. But what especially stirred the Emperor's wrath were the charges which Acacius concocted against Cyril: "For," he said that "the holy robe which the Emperor Constantine of blessed memory, in his desire to honour the Church of Jerusalem, had presented to Macarius, the Bishop of that city, to be worn when he administered the rite of Holy Baptism, all fashioned as it was with golden threads, had been sold by Cyril, and bought by one of the dancers at the theatre, who had put it on, and while dancing had fallen, and injured himself, and died. With such an ally as this Cyril," he said, "they undertake to judge and pass sentence upon the rest of the world⁶."

Ten deputies who at the close of the Council of Seleucia had been appointed to report its

¹Robertson, *Prolegomena ad Athanas.* ii. § 8 (2) c.

²Soz. iv. 17.

³Socrat. ii. 39.

⁴H. E. ii. 26.

⁵Sozom. iv. 22.

⁶Theodoret, *H. E.* ii. 23.

proceedings to the Emperor, "met, on their arrival at the Court, the deputies of the Council of Ariminum, and likewise the partisans of Acacius¹. After much controversy and many intrigues, a mutilated and ambiguous Creed adopted at Ariminum in which the ὁμοούσιος of Nicæa was replaced by "like to the Father that begat Him according to the Scriptures," and the mention of either "essence" (οὐσία) or "subsistence" (ὑπόστασις) condemned², was brought forward and approved by the Emperor. "After having, on the last day of the year 359, discussed the matter with the Bishops till far into the night³, he at length extorted their signatures....It is in this connexion that Jerome says: *Ingemuit totus orbis, et Arianum se esse miratus es*⁴." Early in the following year, 360 A.D., through the influence of Acacius a new Synod was held at Constantinople, in which, among other Semi-Arian Bishops, Cyril also was deposed on the charge of having held communion with Eustathius of Sebaste, Basil of Ancyra, and George of Laodicea. Cyril, as we have seen, had become acquainted with these Bishops during his residence at Tarsus in 358, at which time they were all zealous opponents of Acacius and his party, but differed widely in other respects.

George of Laodicea was a profligate in morals, and an Arian at heart, whose opposition to Acacius and Eudoxius was prompted by self-interest rather than by sincere conviction. He had been deposed from the priesthood by Alexander, Bishop of Alexandria, both on that ground of false doctrine, and of the open and habitual irregularities of his life. Athanasius styles him "the most wicked of all the Arians," reprobated even by his own party for his grossly dissolute conduct⁵.

Basil of Ancyra was a man of high moral character, great learning, and powerful intellect, a consistent opponent both of the Sabellianism of Marcellus, and of every form of Arian and Anomæan heresy, a chief among those of whom Athanasius wrote⁶, "We discuss the matter with them as brothers with brothers, who mean what we mean,

and dispute only about the word (ὁμοούσιος)...Now such is Basil who wrote from Ancyra concerning the Faith" (358 A.D., the same year in which Cyril met him at Tarsus).

Eustathius is described as a man unstable in doctrine, vacillating from party to party, subscribing readily to Creeds of various tendency, yet commanding the respect even of his enemies by a life of extraordinary holiness, in which active benevolence was combined with extreme austerity. "He was a man," says Mr. Gwatkin⁷, "too active to be ignored, too unstable to be trusted, too famous for ascetic piety to be lightly made an open enemy."

S. Basil the Great, when travelling from place to place, to observe the highest forms of ascetic life, had met with Eustathius at Tarsus, and formed a lasting friendship with a man whom he describes as "exhibiting something above human excellence," and of whom, after the painful dissensions which embittered Basil's later life, that great saint could say, that from childhood to extreme old age he (Eustathius) had watched over himself with the greatest care, the result of his self-discipline being seen in his life and character⁸.

Of any intimate friendship between Cyril, and these Semi-Arian leaders, we have no evidence in the vague charges of Acacius: their common fault was that they condemned him in the Synod of Seleucia. The true reason of Cyril's deposition, barely concealed by the frivolous charges laid against him, was the hatred of Acacius, incurred by the refusal to acknowledge the Metropolitan jurisdiction of the See of Cæsarea. The deposition was confirmed by Constantius, and followed by a sentence of banishment. The place of Cyril's exile is not mentioned; nor is it known whether he joined in the protest of the other deposed Bishops, described by S. Basil, *Epist.* 75. His banishment was not of longer continuance than two years. Constantius died on the 3rd of November, 361, and the accession of Julian was soon

¹Sozom. iv. 23.

²Athan. *de. Syn.* § 30, where this Creed is given in full.

³S. Hilar. ii. Num. 708.

⁴Hefele, *Councils*, ii. 271.

⁵*Dict. Chr. Biogr.*

⁶*De Synodis*, § 41.

⁷*The Arian Controversy*, p. 135.

⁸Basil, *Epist.* 244. Compare Newman, *Preface to Catechetical Lectures*, p. iv.

followed by the recall of all the exiled Bishops, orthodox and heretical, and the restoration of their confiscated estates¹. Julian's object, according to Socrates, was "to brand the memory of Constantius by making him appear to have been cruel towards his subjects." An equally amiable motive imputed to him is mentioned by Sozomen: "It is said that he issued this order in their behalf not out of mercy, but that through contention among themselves the Church might be involved in fraternal strife²." Cyril, returning with the other Bishops, seems to have passed through Antioch on his way home, and to have been well received by the excellent Bishop Meletius.

It happened that the son of a heathen priest attached to the Emperor's Court, having been instructed in his youth by a Deaconess whom he visited with his mother, had secretly become a Christian. On discovering this, his father had cruelly scourged and burnt him with hot spits on his hands, and feet, and back. He contrived to escape, and took refuge with his friend the Deaconess. "She dressed me in women's garments, and took me in her covered carriage to the divine Meletius. He handed me over to the Bishop of Jerusalem, at that time Cyril, and we started by night for Palestine.' After the death of Julian, this young man led his father also into the way of truth. This act he told me with the rest³."

The next incident recorded in the life of S. Cyril is his alleged prediction of the failure of Julian's attempt to rebuild the Temple of Jerusalem. "The vain and ambitious mind of Julian," says Gibbon, "might aspire to restore the ancient glory of the Temple of Jerusalem. As the Christians were firmly persuaded that a sentence of everlasting destruction had been pronounced against the whole fabric of the Mosaic law, the Imperial sophist would have converted the success of his undertaking into a specious argument against the faith of prophecy and the truth of revelation." Again he writes: "The Christians entertained a natural and pious expectation, that in this memorable contest, the honour of religion would be vindicated by some signal miracle⁴." That such an expectation may have been shared by Cyril is not impossible: but there is no satisfactory evidence that he ventured to foretell any miraculous interposition. According to the account of Rufinus⁵, "lime and cement had been brought, and all was ready for destroying the old foundations and laying new on the next day. But Cyril remained undismayed, and after careful consideration either of what he had read in Daniel's prophecy concerning the 'times,' or of our Lord's predictions in the Gospels, persisted that it was impossible that one stone should ever there be laid upon another by the Jews." This account of Cyril's expectation, though probable enough in itself, seems to be little more than a conjecture founded on his statement (*Cat.* xv. 15), that "Antichrist will come at the time when there shall not be left one stone upon another in the Temple of the Jews." That doom was not completed in Cyril's time, nor did he expect it to be fulfilled until the coming of the Jewish Antichrist, who was to restore the Temple shortly before the end of the world. It was impossible for Cyril to see in Julian such an Antichrist as he has described; and therefore, without any gift or pretence of prophecy, he might very well express a firm conviction that the attempted restoration at that time must fail. Though Gibbon is even more cynical and contemptuous than usual in his examination of the alleged miracles, he does not attempt to deny the main facts of the story⁶: with their miraculous character we are not here concerned, but only with Cyril's conduct on so remarkable an occasion.

In the same year, A.D. 363, Julian was killed in his Persian campaign on the 26th of June, and was succeeded by Jovian, whose universal tolerance, and personal profession of the Nicene faith, though discredited by the looseness of his morals, gave an interval

¹Socr. *H. E.* iii. 1.

²Sozom. *H. E.* v. c. 5. Compare Gibbon, Ch. xxiii.: "The impartial Ammianus has ascribed this affected clemency to the desire of fomenting the intestine divisions of the Church."

³Theodoret, *H. E.* iii. 10.

⁴Gibbon, c. xxiii.

⁵*Hist.* i. 37.

⁶See Gibbon's remarks on the testimony of Ammianus, "a contemporary and a Pagan," and on the explanation from natural causes suggested by Michaelis.

of comparative rest to the Church. In his reign Athanasius was recalled, and Acacius and his friends subscribed the Nicene Creed, with an explanation of the sense in which they accepted the word ὁμοούσιον¹. As Cyril's name is not mentioned in any of the records of Jovian's short reign of seven months, we may infer that he dwelt in peace at Jerusalem.

Jovian died on the 17th of February, 364, and was succeeded by Valentinian, who in the following March gave over the Eastern provinces of the Empire to his brother Valens. During the first two years of the new reign we hear nothing of Cyril: but at the beginning of the year 366, on the death of his old enemy Acacius, Cyril assumed the right to nominate his successor in the See of Cæsarea, and appointed a certain Philumenus². Whether this assumption of authority was in accordance with the 7th Canon of Nicæa may be doubted: Cyril's choice of his nephew was, however, in after times abundantly justified by the conduct and character of Gelasius, who is described by Theodoret as a man "distinguished by the purity of his doctrine, and the sanctity of his life," and is quoted by the same historian as "the admirable," and "the blessed Gelasius³."

Epiphanius relates⁴ that “after these three had been set up, and could do nothing on account of mutual contentions,” Euzoius was appointed by the Arians, and held the See until the accession of Theodosius in A.D. 379, when he was deposed, and Gelasius restored. In the meantime Cyril had been a third time deposed and driven from Jerusalem, probably in the year 367. For at that time Valens, who had fallen under the influence of Eudoxius, the Arian Bishop of Constantinople, by whom he was baptized, “wrote to the Governors of the provinces, commanding that all Bishops who had been banished by Constantius, and had again assumed their sacerdotal offices under the Emperor Julian, should be ejected from their Churches⁵.” Of this third and longest banishment we have no particulars, but we may safely apply to it the words of the Synod at Constantinople, 382, that Cyril “had passed through very many contests with the Arians in various places.”

The terrible defeat and miserable death of Valens in the great battle against the Goths at Adrianople (A.D. 378) brought a respite to the defenders of the Nicene doctrine. For Gratian “disapproved of the late persecution that had been carried on for the purpose of checking the diversities in religious Creeds, and recalled all those who had been banished on account of their religion⁶.” Gratian associated Theodosius with himself in the Empire on the 19th of January, 379; and “at this period,” says Sozomen⁷, “all the Churches of the East, with the exception of that of Jerusalem, were in the hands of the Arians.” Cyril, therefore, had been one of the first to return to his own See. During his long absence the Church of Jerusalem had been the prey both of Arianism and of the new heresy of Apollinarius, which had spread among the monks who were settled on Mount Olivet. Egyptian Bishops, banished for their orthodoxy, having taken refuge in Palestine, there found themselves excluded from communion. Jerusalem was given over to heresy and schism, to the violent strife of rival factions, and to extreme licentiousness of morals.

Gregory of Nyssa, who had been commissioned by a Council held at Antioch in 378 to visit the Churches in Arabia and Palestine, “because matters with them were in confusion, and needed an arbiter,” gives a mournful account both of the distracted state of the Church, and of the prevailing corruption. “If the Divine grace were more abundant about Jerusalem than elsewhere, sin would not be so much the fashion among those who live there, but as it is, there is no form of uncleanness that is not perpetrated among them; rascality, adultery, theft, idolatry, poisoning, quarrelling, murder, are rife.” In a letter⁸ written after his return

¹Socr. iii. 25; Sozom. vi. 4.

²Epiphanius, *Hær.* 73, § 37.

³*Hist. Eccl.* V. 8; *Dialog.* i. iii.

⁴*Hæres.* lxxiii. § 37.

⁵Sozom. vi. 12. Cf. Tillemont, *Mémoires*, Tom. viii. p. 357: “As Cyril was, no doubt, then persecuted only on account of his firmness in the true Faith, the title of Confessor cannot be refused to him.”

⁶Soz. vii. 1.

⁷Ib. 2.

⁸Greg. Nyss. *Epist.* xvii. in this Series.

to Cæsarea in Cappadocia he asks, “What means this opposing array of new Altars? Do we announce another Jesus? Do we produce other Scriptures? Have any of ourselves dared to say “Mother of Man” of the Holy Virgin, the Mother of God?”

In the year A.D. 381 Theodosius summoned the Bishops of his division of the Empire to meet in Council at Constantinople, in order to settle the disputes by which the Eastern Church had been so long distracted, and to secure the triumph of the Nicene Faith over the various forms of heresy which had arisen in the half-century which had elapsed since the first General Council. Among the Bishops present were Cyril of Jerusalem, and his nephew

Gelasius, who on the death of Valens had regained possession of the See of Cæsarea from the Arian intruder Euzoius. Cyril is described by Sozomen¹ as one of three recognised leaders of the orthodox party, and, according to Bishop Hefele², as sharing the presidency with the Bishops of Alexandria and Antioch. This latter point, however, is not clearly expressed in the statement of Sozomen. Socrates writes that Cyril at this time recognised the doctrine of ὁμοούσιον, having retracted his former opinion: and Sozomen says that he had at this period renounced the tenets of the Macedonians which he previously held³. Touttée rightly rejects these reproaches as unfounded: they are certainly opposed to all his teaching in the Catechetical Lectures, where the doctrine of Christ's unity of essence with the Father is fully and frequently asserted, though the term ὁμοούσιος is not used, and the co-equal Deity of the Holy Ghost is everywhere maintained.

We find no further mention of Cyril in the proceedings of the Council itself. As consisting of Eastern Bishops only, its authority was not at first acknowledged, nor its acts approved in the Western Church. The two Synods held later in the same year at Aquileia and at Milan, sent formal protests to Theodosius, and urged him to summon a General Council at Alexandria or at Rome. But instead of complying with this request, the Emperor summoned the Bishops of his Empire to a fresh Synod at Constantinople, and there in the summer of 382 very nearly the same Bishops were assembled who had been present at the Council of the preceding year. Their Synodical letter addressed to the Bishops assembled at Rome is preserved by Theodoret⁴ and in it we read as follows: "Of the Church in Jerusalem, the Mother of all the Churches, we make known that Cyril the most reverend and most beloved of God is Bishop; and that he was canonically ordained long ago by the Bishops of the province, and that he has very often fought a good fight in various places against the Arians." Thus justice was done at last to one whose prudence, moderation, and love of peace, had exposed him in those days of bitter controversy to undeserved suspicion and relentless persecution. His justification by the Council is the last recorded incident in Cyril's life. We are told by Jerome that he held undisturbed possession of his See for eight years under Theodosius. The eighth year of Theodosius was A.D. 386, and in the Roman Martyrology, the 18th of March in that year is marked as "The birthday ('Natalis,' i.e. of his heavenly life) of Cyril, Bishop of Jerusalem, who after suffering many wrongs from the Arians for the sake of the Faith, and having been several times driven from his See, became at length renowned for the glory of sanctity, and rested in peace: an Ecumenical Council in a letter to Damasus gave a noble testimony to his untarnished faith."

Chapter II.—Catechetical Instruction.

§ 1. *Catechesis*. The term "Catechesis" in its widest sense includes instruction by word of mouth on any subject sacred or profane⁵, but is especially applied to Christian teaching,

¹H. E. vii. 7.

²Councils, ii. 344.

³Socrat. v. 8; Sozom. vii. 7.

⁴H. E. v. 9.

⁵Acts xviii. 25; xxi. 21, 24; Rom. ii. 18; Gal. vi. 6. Cf. Clem. Alex. *Fragm.* § 28: οὐκ ἔστι πιστεῦσαι ἄνευ κατηχήσεως.

whether of an elementary kind appropriate to new converts, or, as in the famous Catechetical School of Alexandria, extending to the higher interpretation of Holy Scripture, and the exposition of Christian philosophy.

The earliest known example of a Catechetical work is the "*Teaching of the Twelve Apostles*," which Athanasius names among the "books not included in the Canon, but appointed by the Fathers to be read by those who are just recently coming to us, and wish to be instructed in the word of godliness (κατηχεῖσθαι τὸν τῆς εὐσεβείας λόγον) ¹." The use of the Didache for the instruction of recent converts from Paganism agrees with its original purpose as stated in the longer title, "*Teaching of the Lord through the Twelve Apostles for the Gentiles*." The first six chapters

are evidently adapted for those who need elementary instruction, more particularly for Catechumens of Gentile descent, as distinct from Jewish candidates for Baptism². The remaining chapters of the Didache relate chiefly to the administration of Baptism, to Prayer, Fasting, and the services of the Lord's Day, and to the celebration of the Agape and Eucharist³. This same division of subjects is observed in the two classes of S. Cyril's Catechetical Lectures: the first class, including the Procatechesis, consists of XIX Lectures addressed to candidates for Baptism, and these are followed by five "Mystagogic" Lectures, so called as being explanations of the Sacramental Mysteries to the newly-baptized.

The Didaché was taken as the basis of other manuals of instruction, as is evident from the fact that the greater part of the first six chapters is imbedded in "The Apostolical Church Order," supposed to date from Egypt in the third century. The Greek text, with an English translation, of the part corresponding with the Didaché, is given in "The oldest Church Manual" as Document V.

A further development of the Didaché, "adapted to the state of the Eastern Church in the first half of the fourth century," is contained in the Seventh Book of the Apostolical Constitutions of Pseudo-Clement of Rome, chs. i.—xxxii. "Here the Didaché is embodied almost word for word, but with significant omissions, alterations, and additions, which betray a later age.... The Didaché was thus superseded by a more complete and timely Church Manual, and disappeared." Dr. Schaff has appended this document also to his edition of the Didaché, noting the borrowed passages on the margin, and distinguishing them by spaced type in the Greek text, and by italics in the English translation.

In this work the directions concerning the instruction of Catechumens and their Baptism are addressed to the Catechist and the Minister of Baptism. They contain only a short outline (c. xxxix.) of the subjects in which the Catechumens are to be instructed, most if not all of which are explained at large in Cyril's Lectures: and in the directions concerning Baptism, Chrism, and the Eucharist, the similarity is so close, that in many passages of the Constitutions the author seems to be referring especially to the use of the Church of Jerusalem.

From this close affinity with earlier works we may be assured that in the Catecheses of Cyril we have trustworthy evidence of the great care which the Church had from the beginning bestowed on the instruction and training of converts, before admitting them to the privilege of Baptism; but beyond this, Cyril's own work has a peculiar value as the earliest extant example of a full, systematic, and continuous course of such instruction.

§ 2. *Catechist*. The duty of catechizing was not limited to a class of persons permanently set apart for that purpose, but all orders of the Clergy were accustomed to take part in the work. Even laymen were encouraged to teach children or new converts the first elements of religion, as we learn from Cyril's exhortation: "If thou hast a child according to the flesh, admonish him of this now; and if thou hast begotten one through *catechizing*, put him also on

¹*Festal Epist.* 39. Compare Clem. Alex. *Strom.* V. c. x. § 67. Γάλα μὲν ἢ κατήχησις οἶονεὶ πρώτη ψυχῆς τροφή νοηθήσεται.

²Schaff, *Oldest Church Manual*, p. 15.

³*Ib.* p. 26.

his guard¹." That this remark was addressed not to the Catechumens, but to such of the Faithful as happened to be present among his audience, appears from what he says elsewhere, "So thou likewise, though not daring before thy Baptism to wrestle with the adversaries, yet after thou hast received the grace, and art henceforth confident in *the armour of righteousness*, must then do battle, and preach the Gospel, if thou wilt²."

The more systematic instruction of those who had been already admitted to the order of Catechumens was entrusted to persons appointed to this special duty. Thus Origen "was in his eighteenth year when he took charge of the Catechetical School at Alexandria," which "was entrusted to him alone by Demetrius, who presided over the Church³:" and S. Augustine's Treatise, *De Catechizandis Rudibus*, was addressed to Deogratias, who being a

Deacon at Carthage, and highly esteemed for his skill and success as a Catechist, felt so strongly the importance of the work and his own insufficiency, that he wrote to Augustine for advice as to the best method of instructing those who were brought to him to be taught the first elements of the Christian Faith.

The final training of the φωτιζόμενοι, or candidates for Baptism, was undertaken in part by the Bishop himself, but chiefly by a Priest specially appointed by him. Of the part taken by the Bishop mention is made by S. Ambrose in a letter to his sister Marcellina (*Ep.* xx.): "On the following day, which was the Lord's day, after the Lessons and Sermon, the Catechumens had been dismissed, and I was delivering the Creed to some candidates (*Competentes*) in the Baptistry of the Basilica."

Of this "delivery of the Creed," which was usually done by a Presbyter, we have examples in S. Augustine's Sermons *In traditione Symboli*, ccxii.–ccxiv., each of which contains a brief recapitulation and explanation of the several articles of belief. In *Serm.* ccxiv., after a short introduction, we find the following note inserted by the preacher himself. ["*After this preface the whole Creed is to be recited, without interposing any discussion.* 'I BELIEVE IN GOD THE FATHER ALMIGHTY,' and the rest that follows. Which Creed, thou knowest, is not wont to be written: after it has been said, the following discussion (*disputatio*) is to be added."]

From the opening words of *Serm.* ccxiv., and of ccxvi., "*ad Competentes*," it is evident that these were delivered by S. Augustine as the first-fruits of his ministry very soon after he had been reluctantly ordained Priest (A.D. 391). Two other examples of addresses to Candidates for Baptism are the *Catecheses* I., II., πρὸς τοὺς μέλλοντας φωτίζεσθαι, delivered at Antioch by S. Chrysostom while a Presbyter.

Another duty often undertaken by the Bishop was to hear each Candidate separately recite the Creed, and then to expound to them all the Lord's Prayer⁴.

§ 3. *Catechumens*. The term Catechumen denoted a person who was receiving instruction in the Christian religion with a view to being in due time baptized. Such persons were either converts from Paganism and Judaism, or children of Christian parents whose Baptism had been deferred. For though the practice of Infant-Baptism was certainly common in the Early Church⁵, it was not compulsory nor invariable. "In many cases Christian parents may have shared and acted on the opinion expressed by Tertullian in the second century, and by Gregory Nazianzen in the fourth, and thought it well to defer the Baptism of children, cases of grave sickness excepted, till they were able to make answer in their own name to the interrogations of the baptismal rite⁶."

¹Cat. xv. 18.

²Cat. iii. 13.

³Euseb. *H. E.* vi. 3.

⁴S. August. *Serm.* lviii. et. ccxv.

⁵Cf. Iren. II. c. xxii. § 4: "Omnes enim venit per semet ipsum salvare; omnes, inquam, qui per eum *renascuntur* in Deum, infantes, et parvulos, et pueros, et juvenes, et seniores. Cf. Concil. Carthag. iii. *Epist. Synod.* (Cypriani *Ep.* lix. vel lxiv. Routh. *R. S.* iii. p. 98.)

⁶*Dict. Chr. Antiq.* "Baptism," § 101. Tertull. *De Baptismo*, c. xviii. "And so, according to the circumstances, and disposition, and even age of each individual, the delay of Baptism is preferable; principally, however, in the case of little children." Cf. Gregor. Naz. *Orat.* 40 *De Baptismo*, quoted by Bingham, xi. c. 4, § 13.

It is stated by Bingham¹, but without any reference to ancient authors, that "the child of believing parents, as they were baptized in infancy, were admitted Catechumens as soon as they were capable of learning." Though the title "Catechumen" was not usually applied to those who had been already baptized, it is probable that such children

were admitted to the Lectures addressed to Catechumens both in the earlier and later stage of their preparation: for it seems to be implied in the passage quoted above from *Cat.* xv. 18, that admission was not limited to the candidates for Baptism.

To believe and to be baptized are the two essential conditions of membership in Christ's Church²: but for the admission of new converts to the class of Catechumens nothing more could be required than evidence of a sincere desire to understand, to believe, and ultimately to be baptized.

We know that unbelievers, Jews, and Heathens were allowed in the Apostolic age to be present at times in the Christian assemblies³; and in Cyril's days they stood in the lower part of the Church (νάοθηξ) to hear the Psalms, Lessons, and Sermon⁴.

Any persons who by thus hearing the word, or by other means, were brought to believe the truth of Christianity, and to wish for further instruction, were strictly examined as to their character, belief, and sincerity of purpose. The care with which such examinations were conducted is thus described by Origen: "The Christians, however, having previously, so far as possible, tested the souls of those who wish to become their hearers, and having previously admonished them in private, when they seem, before entering the community, to have made sufficient progress in the desire to lead a virtuous life, they then introduce them, having privately formed one class of those who are just beginners, and are being introduced, and have not yet received the mark of complete purification; and another of those who have manifested to the best of their ability the purpose of desiring no other things than are approved by Christians⁵." Such as were thus found worthy of admission were brought to the Bishop Presbyter, and received by the sign of the Cross⁶, with prayer and imposition of hands, to the status of Catechumens.

We have a description by Eusebius⁷ of some of these ceremonies in the case of Constantine: When the Emperor felt his life to be drawing to a close, "he poured forth his supplications and confessions to God, kneeling on the pavement in the Church itself, in which he also now for the first time received the imposition of hands with prayer." Soon after this the Bishops whom he had summoned to Nicomedia to give him Baptism, "performed the sacred ceremonies in the usual manner, and having given him the necessary instructions made him a partaker of the mystic ordinances."

Another ceremony used in the admission of Catechumens, at least in some Churches, mentioned by S. Augustine⁸: "Sanctification is not of one kind only: for I suppose that Catechumens also are sanctified in a certain way of their own by the sign of Christ's Cross, and the Prayer of the Imposition of Hands; and that which they receive, though it be not the Body of Christ, is yet an holy thing, and more holy than the common food which sustains us, because it is a sacrament." From this passage it has been inferred that *consecrated bread*

¹*Antiq.* X. i. § 4.

²[Mark xvi. 16](#); [Acts xviii. 8](#).

³[1 Cor. xiv. 23](#).

⁴*Apostolic Constitutions*, VIII. i. § 5: "And after the reading of the Law and the Prophets, and our Epistles, and Acts, and Gospels, let him that is ordained...speak to the people the word of exhortation, and when he has ended his discourse of doctrine, all standing up, let the Deacon ascend upon some high seat, and proclaim, Let none of the hearers, let none of the *unbelievers* stay: and silence being made, let him say, Ye *Catechumens*, pray, and let all the *Faithful* pray for them."

⁵*Contra Celsum*, iii. c. 51. Cf. *Const. Apost.* viii. 32: "Let them be examined as to the causes wherefore they come to the word of the Lord, and let those who bring them inquire exactly about their character, and give them their testimony. Let their manners and their life be inquired into, and whether they be slaves or free," &c.

⁶S. Aug. *De Symbolo*, *Serm. ad Catechumenos*, § 1: "Ye have not yet been born again by holy Baptism, but by the sign of the Cross ye have been already conceived in the womb of your mother the Church."

⁷*Vita Const.* iv. c. 60.

(εὐλογία, *panis benedictus*), taken out of the oblations provided for the Eucharist, was given to the Catechumens,—an opinion which seemed to have some support in the comparison between “that which the Catechumens receive,” and “the food which sustains us.” But Bingham maintains¹ that S. Augustine here refers only to the symbolical use of salt, of which he says in his *Confessions*, l. xi., that while yet a boy he “used to be marked with the sign of His Cross, and seasoned with His salt.” The meaning of this so-called “Sacrament of the Catechumens” was that by the symbol of salt “they might learn to purge and cleanse their souls from sin.”

In the African Church in the time of S. Augustine it was customary to anoint the new convert with exorcised oil at the time of his admission, but in the Eastern Church there seems to have been no such anointing until immediately before Baptism.

Persons who had been thus admitted to the class of Catechumens were usually regarded as Christians, but only in a lower degree, being still clearly distinguished from the Faithful. “Ask a man, Art thou a Christian? If he is a Pagan or a Jew, he answers, I am not. But if he say, I am, you ask him further, Catechumen or Faithful? If he answer, Catechumen, he has been anointed, but not yet baptized².” Augustine, like Tertullian, complains that among heretics there was no sure distinction between the Catechumen and the Faithful³: and according to the second General Council, *Canon 7*, converts from certain heresies to the orthodox Faith were to be received only as heathen: “On the first day we make them Christians, on the second Catechumens, on the third we exorcise them by three times breathing on them on the face and on the ears; and so we instruct them (κατηχοῦμεν), and make them frequent the Church for a long time, and listen to the Holy Scriptures, and then we baptize them.”

Whether Cyril calls his hearers Christians before they had been baptized is not very clear: in *Cat. x. § 16*, he seems to include them among those who are called by the “new name;” but in § 20 of the same Lecture he assumes that there may be present some one who “was before a believer (πιστός),” and to him he says “Thou wert called a Christian; be tender of the name,” and in *Lect. xxi. i.*, speaking to those who had now been baptized, he says, “Having therefore become *partakers of Christ*, ye are properly called Christs. Now ye have been made Christs by receiving the antitype of the Holy Ghost,” that is, Chrism.

§ 4. *Candidates for Baptism.* Bingham, who himself makes four classes or degrees of Catechumens, acknowledges that “the Greek expositors of the ancient Canons,” and other writers, “usually make but two sorts⁴.” These were (1) the *imperfect* (ἀτελέστεροι), called also hearers (ἀκροῶμενοι, *audientes*), because in Church they were only allowed to remain till the Holy Scriptures had been read, the Sermon preached, the special prayers of the Catechumens said, and the blessing given to each by the Bishop in the words of the “prayer of the imposition of hands⁵.” After this the Deacon says, “Go out, ye catechumens, in peace.” (2) After the Energumens also have been dismissed, *the more perfect* (τελειότεροι, φωτιζόμενοι) remain on their knees in prayer (γονυκλίνοντες, εὐχόμενοι). Then the Deacon is to cry aloud, “Ye that are to be illuminated, pray. Let us the faithful all pray for them. And being sealed to God through His Christ, let them bow down their heads, and receive the blessing from the Bishop.” The “Prayer of the Imposition of hands” is then pronounced over them by the Bishop.

The period of probation and instruction varied at different times and places: according to Canon 42 of the Synod of Elvira, 305, it was to be two years: “He who has a good name,

¹*Antiq. X. ii. § 16.*

²S. August. *In Joh. Evang. Tract. xlv. § 2.*

³*Serm. xlv. de Pastoribus*, c. 13: Tertull. *de Præscriptione Hæret.* c. 41: “Imprimis quis Catechumenus, quis Fidelis, in certum est.”

⁴*Ant. X. ii. 1–5.* The Council of Nicæa, Canon xiv., seems to speak only of two classes.

⁵*Const. Apost.* viii. § 6.

xxiv

and wishes to become a Christian, must be a Catechumen two years: then he maybe baptized¹.” After this probation had been satisfactorily passed, the Catechumens invited to give in their names as Candidates for Baptism. This invitation, described by Cyril as a call to military service (κλησις στρατείας)², appears to have been often repeated on the approach of Lent. Thus S. Ambrose, in his *Commentary on S. Luke*, v. 5; *We have toiled all night and have taken nothing*, complains, “I too, Lord, know that for me it is night, when I have not Thy command. No one yet has given his name: with my voice I have cast the net throughout Epiphany, and as yet I have taken nothing.”

This preliminary “call to service” must be distinguished from the actual enlistment in the Christian army at Baptism, in anticipation of which Cyril prays for his hearers that God “may enlist them in His service, and put on them the armour of righteousness³.” The same metaphorical language in reference to the Christian warfare recurs in many passages⁴.

The next step for those who responded to the call was the registration of names (ὀνοματογραφία)⁵. It appears from passages of Dionysius Pseudo-Areopagites, quoted by Bingham⁶, that the Bishop, after laying his hand on each Catechumen’s head, commanded his Presbyters and Deacons to register his name, together with that of his sponsor (ἀνάδοχος) in the Diptychs of the living. This ceremony took place at Jerusalem at the beginning of Lent, as we learn from *Procat.* § 1: “Thou hast entered, been approved; thy name inscribed....A long notice is allowed thee; thou hast forty days for repentance.” Those who had been admitted as candidates for Baptism were in most Churches still reckoned among the Catechumens, being distinguished as συναϊτουῦντες, “*competentes*.” But from Cyril’s language in several passages it appears that in the Church of Jerusalem they ceased to be regarded as Catechumens, and were reckoned among the Faithful. “Thou wert called a Catechumen, while the word echoed round thee from without. Think not that thou receivest a small thing: though a miserable man, thou receivest one of God’s titles. Hear S. Paul saying, *God is faithful*. But beware, lest thou have the title of ‘faithful,’ but the will of the faithless⁷.” “Thou receivest a new name which thou hadst not before. Heretofore thou wast a Catechumen, but now thou wilt be called a Believer (Πιστός)⁸.”

Again, “How great a dignity the Lord bestows on you in transferring you from the order of Catechumens to that of the Faithful, the Apostle Paul shews, when he affirms, *God is faithful*⁹.”

Two passages in S. Cyril have been thought to imply that the newly-admitted Candidates for Baptism carried lighted torches in procession, perhaps on the first Sunday after the registration. He speaks of their having received “torches of the bridal procession¹⁰,” and on this expression the Benedictine Editor observes that “Wax tapers” were perhaps given to the *Illuminandi* to carry, a custom which may also be indicated in the words, “Ye who have lately lighted the torches of faith, guard them carefully in your hands unquenched¹¹.”

Others are of opinion that the custom of carrying torches or tapers was observed only in the procession of the newly-baptized from the Baptistery to the Church¹², and that here Cyril means by the “bridal lamps,” those motions of the Holy Ghost, and spiritual instructions, which had lighted their way to Christ, and to the entrance to His Kingdom¹³. This latter interpretation is rather vague and far-fetched, and it is evident that the words, “Ye who have lately lighted the torches of faith,” gain much in clearness and force, if suggested by the visible symbolism of a ceremony in which the *Illuminandi* had just borne their part. The

¹Hefele, *Councils*, i. p. 155. *Const. Apost.* viii. 32: “Let him that is to be instructed be a catechumen three years.”

²*Procat.* § 1.

³Ib. § 17.

⁴See Cat. i. 3; iii. 3, 13; iv. 36, xvii. 36; xxi. 4.

⁵*Procat.* § 1.

⁶*Antiq.* X. ii. § 6.

⁷*Procat.* § 6.

⁸*Cat.* i. 4.

⁹*ib.* v. 1.

¹⁰λαμπάδες νυμφαγωγίας, *Procat.* § 1.

¹¹*Cat.* i. § 1.

¹²Bingham, *Ant.* X. ii. § 15.

¹³*Dict. Chr. Antiq.* Vol. ii. p. 995, note.

xxv

lighted torches would be a significant symbol both of the marriage of the soul with Christ, and of its enlightenment by faith.

§ 5. φωτιζόμενοι. In the first words of his Introductory Lecture Cyril addresses his hearers as οἱ φωτιζόμενοι, “Ye who are being enlightened,” and from the Titles of the Catechetical Lectures i.–xviii., we see that this name was constantly used to distinguish the candidates preparing for immediate Baptism.

The Verb φωτίζω is frequently used by the LXX., both in a physical and in a spiritual sense. In the New Testament it is found but rarely in the physical sense¹, being generally applied to the light of spiritual truth, and to Christ as its source².

In two passages of the Epistle to the Hebrews, the Aorist (φωτισθέντας) marks “the decisive moment when the light was apprehended in its glory³,” from which the thought easily passes on to the public profession of the truth thus received, that is, to Baptism.

That the word began very early to be used in this new sense, is evident from Justin Martyr’s explanation of it in his *First Apology*, c. 61; where, after speaking of instruction in Christian doctrine, of the profession of faith, and the promise of repentance and holy living, as the necessary preparations for Baptism, he thus proceeds: “And this washing is called Illumination (σωτισμός), because they who learn these things are illuminated in their understanding.⁴” The same transition of the meaning from instruction to Baptism is clearly implied by Clement of Alexandria: “Among the barbarian philosophers also to instruct and to enlighten is called to regenerate⁵,” and again: “For this reason the teaching, which made manifest the hidden things, has been called illumination (φωτισμός)⁶.”

That this is the sense in which Cyril uses the word is placed beyond doubt by a passage of the Lecture delivered immediately before the administration of Baptism: “that your soul being *previously illuminated* (προφωτισμένης) by the word of doctrine, ye may in each particular discover the greatness of the gifts bestowed on you by God⁷.”

We thus see that the Present Participle (φωτιζόμενοι) describes a process of gradual illumination during the course of instruction, to be completed in Baptism, a sense which is well expressed in the Latin Gerundive “Illuminandi.” And as we have seen that the candidates are addressed as οἱ φωτιζόμενοι even before the course of instruction has commenced, the quasi-Future sense “follows necessarily from the context⁸.”

The spiritual “Illumination,” of which Baptism was to be the completion and the seal, thus became by a natural

development one of the recognised names of Baptism itself. On the contrary, the inverse process assumed by the Benedictine Editor is entirely unnatural. Starting from the later ecclesiastical use of φωτίζω and φωτισμός as connoting Baptism, he supposes that this was the first application of those terms, and that they were transferred to the previous illumination acquired by instruction in Christian truth, only because this was a necessary preparation for Baptism. He therefore maintains that φωτιζόμενοι throughout the Catechetical Lectures is another term for βαπτιζόμενοι: and as a decisive proof of this he refers to *Cat.* xvi. 26: μέλλει δὲ καὶ ἐπὶ σὲ τὸν βαπτιζόμενον φθάνειν ἡ χάρις, not observing that the grace is to come upon “the person being baptized” at a time still future. This meaning of the passage is made absolutely certain by the words which immediately follow,—“But in what manner I say not, for I will not anticipate the proper season.” We may conclude, therefore, that in Cyril’s Lectures the term οἱ φωτιζόμενοι refers to the preparatory course of enlightenment rather than to Baptism. At the same time we must remember that in Cyril’s day, and long before, φωτίζω, φωτισμός, and φώτισμα were constantly used to denote Baptism

¹[Luke 11.36; Rev. 18.1.](#)

²[John 1.9; 1 Cor. 4.5; 2 Cor. 4.4,6; Eph. 1.18; 3.9; 2 Tim. 1.10; Rev. 21.23; 22.5.](#)

³Westcott, “*Hebrews*,” vi. 4; x. 32.

⁴ὡς φωτιζομένων τὴν διάνοιαν τῶν ταῦτα μαθησάντων.

⁵*Strom.* V. c. 2, § 15.

⁶*Strom.* V. c. x. § 65. Cf. V. c. viii. § 49.

⁷*Cat.* xviii. § 32.

⁸Cf. Winer, *Grammar of N.T. Greek*, Sect. xl. 22, note 3.

xxvi

itself, as being the time of special illumination by the grace of the Holy Spirit then given. Thus Clement of Alexandria writes: “In Baptism we are illuminated.... This work is variously called grace, and illumination (φώτισμα), and perfection, and washing:... illumination, by which that holy light of salvation is beheld, that is, by which we see God clearly¹.” Gregory Nazianzen speaks in the same way: “We call it gift, grace, baptism, chrism, illumination, garment of incorruption, washing of regeneration, seal, all that is precious².”

Chapter III.—Special Preparation for Baptism.

§ 1. *Penitence.* The candidate for Baptism, having been duly admitted and registered, was required not only to be diligent in attending the course of Catechetical instruction³, but also to enter at once upon a course of strict devotion and penitential discipline. “Those who are coming to Baptism,” says Tertullian, “must be constantly engaged in prayers, fastings, kneelings, and watchings, together with confession of all past faults⁴.”

On these subjects Cyril’s teaching is earnest, wise, and sympathetic: he seeks to lead to repentance by gentle persuasion, and pleads for self-discipline as needful for the good of the soul⁵. One whole Lecture is devoted to the necessity of thorough repentance for all past sins, and forgiveness of all offences⁶: another to the sure efficacy of repentance for the remission of sins⁷.

§ 2. *Confession.* Ἐξομολόγησις. Great stress is laid by Cyril on the necessity not only of sincere inward repentance, but also of open confession. The words ἐξομολογεῖσθαι, ἐξομολόγησις have a twofold meaning and a wide application.

(1.) In the Septuagint they occur very frequently, especially in the Psalms, in the sense of “giving thanks or praise” (Heb. [הודה](#)⁸, a meaning which is also found in the New Testament⁹. Perhaps the earliest instance in an Ecclesiastical writer is in Hermas, *Mandat.* X. iii. 2: ἐξομολογούμενος τῷ θεῷ. I have not found any instance of this meaning in Cyril.

S. Chrysostom, commenting on the words, “*I will give thanks unto Thee, O Lord*”¹⁰, says, “There are two kinds of *exomologesis*; for it is either a condemnation of our own sins or a giving of thanks to God.” The link between these two ideas is seen in Joshua’s exhortation to Achan, *My son, give, I pray thee, glory to the LORD, the God of Israel, and make confession*¹¹ unto Him. R.V. Margin. Or, *give praise*.

(2.) In the sense of “confessing” sins, the Verb is not uncommon in the N.T.¹², and in the early Fathers¹³. Tertullian adopts the Greek word, and calls *exomologesis* “the handmaid of repentance”¹⁴, adding that it will extinguish the fire of Gehenna in the heart, being a second remedy for sin, after Baptism.

Again, speaking of the outward act of repentance, he says: “This act, which is more usually expressed and commonly spoken of under a Greek name, is ἐξομολόγησις, whereby we confess our sins to the Lord, not indeed as if He were ignorant of them, but inasmuch as by confession satisfaction is appointed, and of confession repentance is born, and God appeared by repentance. Accordingly *exomologesis* is a discipline for man’s prostration and humiliation, enjoining a demeanour calculated to move mercy. With regard also to the very dress and food, it commands (the penitent) to lie in sackcloth and ashes...to know no food and drink but such

¹*Pædag.* I. vi. § 25. (Syllb. 41).

²*Orat.* xl. § 4.

³*Procat.* § 9: “Let thy feet haste to the Catechisings,” § 10: “Abide thou in the Catechisings: though our discourse be long, let not thy mind be wearied out.” Cf. *Cat.* i. 5.

⁴*De Baptismo*, c. 20. Cf. Justin M. *Apol.* I. c. 61; *Const. Apost.* vii. 22.

⁵Compare his teaching on Prayer, *Procat.* § 16; *Cat.* ix. 7: and on Fasting *Cat.* iv. 27, 37; xviii. 17.

⁶*Cat.* i.

⁷*Cat.* ii.

⁸*Ps.* xlii. 5; xliii. 4, 5 (ἐξομολογήσομαι); and *Ps.* c. 4 (ἐ? ἐξομολογήσει).

⁹*Matt.* xi. 25; *Phil.* ii. 11.

¹⁰*Ps.* ix. 1: Ἐξομολογήσομαί σοι, Κύριε.

¹¹*Joshua* vii. 19, Sept. ἐξομολόγησιν.

¹²*Matt.* iii. 6; *Mark* i. 5; *James* iii. 16.

¹³*Irenæus*, I. xiii. § 5; III. iv. § 3; Clem. Alex. *Protrept.* ii. § 41: ἐξομολογοῦνται οἱ δαίμονες τὴν γαστριμαργίαν τὴν αὐτῶν.

¹⁴*De Pœnitentia*, c. xii.

as is plain,—to feed prayers on fastings, to groan, to weep and roar (*mugire*) unto the Lord God; to roll before the feet of the presbyters, and kneel to God's dear ones, to enjoin on all the brethren embassies of intercession on his behalf. All this *exomologesis* does, that it may enhance repentance¹, &c."

In this highly rhetorical description of the ecclesiastical discipline so dear to Tertullian there are many features of extreme severity to which Cyril makes no allusion; yet he frequently and very earnestly insists on the necessity and the efficacy of confession. "The present is the season of confession: confess what thou hast done in word or in deed, by night or by day; confess *in an acceptable time, and in the day of salvation* receive the heavenly treasure²" "Tell the Physician thine ailment: say thou also, like David, *I said, I will confess me my sin unto the LORD*; and the same shall be done in thy case, which he says forthwith, *and Thou forgavest the wickedness of my heart*³." "Seest thou the humility of the king? Seest thou his confession?...The deed was quickly done, and straightway the Prophet appeared as accuser, and the offender confessed his fault; and because he candidly confessed, he received a most speedy cure⁴."

"Ezekias prevailed to the cancelling of God's decree, and cannot Jesus grant remission of sins? Turn and bewail thyself, shut thy door, and pray to be forgiven, pray that He may remove from thee the burning flames. For confession has power to quench even fire, power to tame even lions⁵."

The confession to which Cyril attaches so high a value, whether made in the privacy of solitude, or openly before the Ministers of the Church and the Congregation, is a confession to God, and not to man. "Having therefore, brethren, many examples of those who have sinned and repented and been saved, do ye also heartily make confession unto the Lord⁶." Elsewhere he expressly disclaims the necessity of private confession to man: "Not that thou shouldest shew thy conscience to me, for thou art not to *be judged of man's judgment*; but that thou shew the sincerity of thy faith to God, *who trieth the reins and hearts, and knoweth the thoughts of men*⁷." He also limits the season of confession and repentance to this present life: "Therefore the just shall then offer praise; but they who have died in sins have no further season for confession⁸."

§ 3. *Exorcism*. One of the earliest ceremonies, after the registration of names, was Exorcism, which seems to have been often repeated during the Candidate's course of preparation. "Receive with earnestness the exorcisms: whether thou be breathed upon or exorcised, the act is to thee salvation⁹."

The power of casting out devils, promised by our Lord¹⁰, and exercised by Apostles¹¹, and by Philip the Deacon and Evangelist¹², was long regarded in the early Church as a direct gift still bestowed by the Holy Ghost, apart from any human ordinance. Justin Martyr¹³, Tertullian¹⁴, Origen¹⁵, all speak of exorcism as being practised by laymen, even by soldiers, and women, by means of prayer and invocation of the name of Jesus. Accordingly "an Exorcist is not ordained, for it is a gift of the spontaneous benevolence and grace of God through Christ by visitation of the Holy Ghost. For he who has received the gift of healing is declared by revelation from God, the grace which is in him being manifest to all¹⁶." When the extraordinary gift was found to have been withdrawn, exorcists are mentioned among the inferior officers of the Church, after readers and subdeacons¹⁷. From an early period certain set formulæ, such as the Divine names, "The God of Abraham, and God of Isaac, and God

¹*De Pœnitentia*, c. ix.

²Cat. i. § 5.

³Ib. § 6.

⁴Ib. § 11.

⁵Cat. ii. 15. For similar statements, see Cat. i. 2; ii. 19, 20, &c.

⁶Cat. ii. § 20.

⁷Ib. v. § 2.

⁸Ib. xviii. 14.

⁹*Procat.* § 9.

¹⁰[Mark xvi. 17](#); [Luke ix. 1](#); [x. 17](#).

¹¹[Acts v. 16](#); [xvi. 18](#); [xix. 12](#).

¹²[Acts viii. 7](#).

¹³*Apologia* I. §§ 6, 8; *Tryph.* lxxxv.

¹⁴*De Idolol.* c. xi.; *de Corona Mil.* xi.; *de Anima*, lvii. *de Spectac.* xxvi.; *de Præscript. Hæret.* xli.

¹⁵*Contra Celsum*, vii. c. 57.

¹⁶*Const. Apost.* viii. 26.

¹⁷*Euseb. H. E.* vi. 43; *Syn. Antioch.* in *Encæniiis*, Can. 10: *Syn. Laod.* Can. 24.

 xxviii

of Jacob,” “The God of Israel,” “The God who drowned the king of Egypt and the Egyptians in the Red Sea,” were frequently invoked against demons and certain wicked persons¹.

Accordingly, when an exorcist was ordained the Bishop was directed to give him the book in which the exorcisms were written, with the words, “Receive thou these, and commit them to memory, and have thou power to lay hands upon the Energumens, whether they be baptized or only Catechumens².” Though this Canon speaks only of exorcising Energumens, or such persons as were supposed to be possessed by evil spirits, we must remember that the power of such spirits was believed to extend to the whole world outside the Christian Church. Thus all converts from Paganism and Judaism, and even the children of Christian parents were exorcised before being baptized. The practice was closely connected with the doctrine of original sin, as we see in many passages of S. Augustine, and is declared by him to be very ancient and universal³. In expounding the Creed to candidates for Baptism, he says: “Therefore, as you have seen this day, and as you know, even little children are breathed on and exorcised, that the hostile power of the devil may be driven out of them, which deceived one man in order that he might get possession of all men⁴.”

We find accordingly that Cyril enforces the duty of attending the Exorcisms on all the candidates alike, and from his use of the Plural (Exorcisms) we see that the ceremony was often repeated for each person. Thus in the Clementine Homilies Peter is represented as saying, “Whoever of you wish to be baptized, begin from to-morrow to fast, and each day have hands laid upon you⁵,” the imposition of hands being one of the ceremonies used in exorcism⁶. From expressions in the Introductory Lecture, “When ye have come in before the hour of the exorcisms⁷,” and again, “when your exorcism has been done, until the others who are to be exorcised have come⁸,” it seems that before each Catechizing the candidates were all exorcised, one by one⁹, and that the earlier, after returning from their own exorcism, had to wait for those who came later. The catechizing was thus frequently delayed till late in the day, and Cyril often complains of the shortness of the time left at his disposal¹⁰.

At Antioch, the Catechizing preceded the Exorcism, as we learn from S. Chrysostom: “After you have heard our instruction, they take off your sandals, and unclothe you, and send you on naked and barefoot, with your tunic only, to the utterances of the Exorcists¹¹.” Cyril says nothing of this unclothing, but mentions another ceremony as practised at Jerusalem: “Thy face has been veiled, that thy mind may henceforward be free, lest the eye by roving make the heart rove also. But when thine eyes are veiled, thine ears are not hindered from receiving the means of salvation¹².” The veil may also have been a symbol of the slavery and darkness of sin, as S. Augustine regards the removal of the veil on the octave of Easter as symbolising the spiritual liberty of the baptized¹³. Of this meaning Cyril makes no express mention.

In the Greek Euchologion, as quoted by Kleopas, the act of the Exorcist is thus described: “And the Priest breathes upon his mouth, his forehead, and his breast, saying, Drive forth from him every evil and unclean spirit, hidden and lurking in his heart, the spirit of error, the spirit of wickedness¹⁴, &c.”

¹Origen, *Contra Cels.* iv. c. 34 (p. 184).

²Fourth Council of Carthage, *Can.* 7 (A.D. 398).

³*De Nupt. et Concup.* II. § 33; *de Pecc. Orig.* § 45; *contra aulian Pelag.* VI. § 11; *Op. Imperf. c. Julian.* I. § 50; III. § 144, &c.

⁴*De Symbolo*, § 2. Cf. *Cat.* xx. (*Myst.* ii.) § 2.

⁵*Hom.* iii. c. 73.

⁶Orig. in *Josu.* xxiv. § 1: “exorcistarum manus impositione.”

⁷*Procat.* § 13.

⁸*Ib.* § 14.

⁹Aug. *Sermo de Symb.* ii. § 1: “ut ex locis secretis singuli produceremini.” This may possibly refer only to the final exorcism immediately before Baptism.

¹⁰*Cat.* xiii. 8: xv. 33; xviii. 16, &c.

¹¹*Ad Illuminandos*, *Cat.* i. § 2.

¹²*Procat.* § 9.

¹³S. Aug. *Serm.* 376. “Hodie octavæ dicuntur Infantium; revelanda sunt capita eorum, quod est indicium libertatis. Habet enim libertatem ista spiritualis nativitas, propriæ autem carnis nativitas servitutem.”

¹⁴*Procat.* § 14.

Besides such invocations of the names of God, as we have mentioned above, the Exorcist used set forms of prayer “collected out of the Holy Scriptures.” Their effect, as described by Cyril, is to “set the soul, as it were, on fire,” and scare the evil spirit away; and his meaning may be illustrated by a passage of Tertullian, who says¹: “All the authority and power we have over them is from naming the name of Christ, and recalling to their memory the woes with which God threatens them at the hands of Christ as Judge.... So at our touch and breathing, overwhelmed by the thought of those judgment-fires, they leave the bodies they have entered, at our command, unwilling and distressed, and before your very eyes put to an open shame.”

The Exorcisms were performed in the Church; where also the Lectures were delivered, Catechumens of the lower order being excluded, “and the doors looking towards the city closed², while those which looked towards the Holy Sepulchre, from which the ruins of the ancient Temple, Golgotha, and the old city could be seen, were left open³.”

Chapter IV.—Ceremonies of Baptism and Chrism.

§ 1. *Renunciation.* We have seen that Cyril's last Catechetical Lecture was delivered in the early dawn of the Great Sabbath, Easter Eve. The additional instructions then promised⁴ concerning the behaviour of the Candidates were given on the same day, probably in the evening, when they were all assembled immediately before the administration of Baptism. The most important parts of the Baptismal ceremony are described by Cyril in the first Mystagogic Lecture, delivered on the Monday of Easter week. Thus in § 1 he says, Let us now teach you these things exactly, that ye may know the significance of the things done to you on that evening of your Baptism."

The first act was the renunciation of the Devil and all his works. This, as described by Tertullian, was done first in the Church "under the hand of the Bishop," and again immediately before entering the water⁵. Cyril speaks of the latter occasion only. "First ye entered into the outer chamber of the Baptistry, and there facing towards the West (as the region of darkness) ye heard the command to stretch forth your hand, and as in the presence of Satan to renounce him⁶." For the formula of renunciation in the Apostolical Constitutions, see note 2 on *Mystag.* i. § 8; it corresponds closely with Cyril's, except that this is addressed to Satan as if personally present: "I renounce thee, Satan ⁷, and all thy works⁸, and all thy pomp⁹, and all thy worship¹⁰."

§ 2. *Profession of Faith.* After the renunciation of Satan the Candidate immediately turned to the East and said, "And I associate myself (συντάσσομαι) with Christ." Cyril does not give the words, but seems to allude to the custom, when he speaks of the Candidates "turning from the West to the East, the place of light¹¹."

Then, still facing the East, the Candidate was bidden to say, "I believe in the Father, and in the Son, and in the Holy Ghost, and in one Baptism of repentance¹²." We have seen that in Cat. xviii. 22, 32, Cyril intimated to his Candidates that they would be required to profess publicly the Creed which he had delivered to them and which they had repeated after him. This public profession of faith (Ὁμολογία, "Redditio Symboli") was in some Churches made on Holy Thursday, according to Canon 46 of the Synod of Laodicea: "Those to be baptized must learn the Creed by heart, and recite it to the Bishop or

¹*Apologet.* c. 23.

²*Procat.* § 9.

³Cat. xiii. 23: "Thou seest this spot of Golgotha? Thou answerest with a shout of praise, as if assenting."

⁴Cat. xviii. § 32,

⁵*De. Cor. Mil.* c. 3.

⁶*Myst.* i. § 2.

⁷§ 4.

⁸§ 5.

⁹§ 6.

¹⁰§ 8.

¹¹§ 9, note 3.

¹²Compare xviii. 22: "One Baptism of repentance for the remission of sins."

Presbyters on the fifth day of the week.” But in the *Apostolic Constitutions*, c. xli., Candidate is required to recite the whole Creed immediately after the Renunciation: “And after his renunciation let him in his consociation (συντασσόμενος) say: ‘And I associate myself to Christ, and believe and am baptized into One Unbegotten Being, the Only True God Almighty, the Father of Christ,...and into the Lord Jesus Christ....and I am baptized into the Holy Ghost,...into the resurrection of the flesh, and into the remission of sins, and into the kingdom of heaven, and into the life of the world to come.’ And after this vow he comes in order to the anointing with oil.”

Such appears to have been the custom of the Eastern Churches in general and of Jerusalem in Cyril's time, although he mentions only those articles of the Creed which were commonly held to be indispensable to a valid profession of Christian belief.

Dr. Swainson¹ represents the matter somewhat differently: “When we come to the profession of his own personal faith which was made at Jerusalem by the Candidate for Baptism, we find that this was far briefer not only than the collection of ‘necessary things’ (Cat. iv.), but also than the Creed of the Church of Jerusalem.” Then after quoting the short form in Cyril, *Myst.* i. § 9, “I believe in the Father, and in the Son, and in the Holy Ghost, and in one Baptism of repentance,” Dr. Swainson adds: “The words are clear and definite. In these words each answered the question of which we read elsewhere, ‘Did he believe in the name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit?’ In this his reply the Candidate ‘confessed’ what Cyril called ‘the saving confession.’”

It is evident that two separate parts of the Baptismal Service are here confused: the question to which Dr. Swainson alludes, and “the saving confession” of which Cyril speaks in *Mystag.* ii. § 4, belong, as we shall presently see, to a later stage of the ceremony.

§ 3. *First Unction.* On passing from the outer to the inner chamber of the Baptistery, the Candidate who had made his renunciation and profession barefoot and wearing his tunic (χιτών)² only, now put off this inner garment also, as an emblem of putting off the man with his deeds³. A further significance is ascribed by Cyril to this unclothing of Candidate, as being an imitation both of Christ, who hung naked⁴ on the Cross, and by His nakedness *put off from Himself the principalities and the powers*, and “of the first-formed Adam, who was naked in the garden, and was not ashamed.”

“Then, when ye were stripped, ye were anointed with exorcised oil, from the very hairs your head to your feet⁵.” The consecration of the “exorcised oil” is thus described⁶: “Now this is blessed by the chief-priest for the remission of sins, and the first preparation for Baptism. For he calls thus upon the Unbegotten God, the Father of Christ, the King of all sensible and intelligent natures, that He would sanctify the oil in the name of the Lord Jesus, and impart to it spiritual grace and efficacious strength, the remission of sins, and the first preparation for the confession of Baptism, that so the Candidate for Baptism, when he is anointed may be freed from all ungodliness, and may become worthy of initiation, according to the command of the Only-begotten.”

Bingham's observation, that Cyril describes this first unction as used “between the renunciation and the confession⁷” is not quite accurate: in fact it came between two confessions, the one made, as we have seen, immediately after the renunciation in the outer

¹*Creeds of the Church*, p. 17.

²Pseudo-Dionysius Areopag. *Eccl. Hierarch.* iii.

³*Mystag.* ii. § 2.

⁴This passage has recently (1891) acquired a special interest from the controversy concerning Mr. Calderon's picture, representing St. Elisabeth of Hungary as kneeling naked before the altar. The word “naked” (γυμνός, nudus) is not in itself decisive, but here in St. Cyril's account of Baptism absolute nakedness seems to be implied; for though women sometimes wore an under-tunic (χιτώνιον), men had nothing beneath the tunic proper (χιτών), which is here said to be put off. According to Theophylact, on [Matt. v. 40](#), the chiton was properly τὸ παρ' ἡμῶν λεγόμενον ὑποκάμισος. See *Dictionary of Biblical Antiquities*, “Baptism,” § 48.

⁵Ib. § 3.

⁶Const. Apost. vii. c. 42.

⁷Ant. XI. c. 9, § 1.

xxx

chamber, the other at the very time of immersion. Chrysostom¹ clearly distinguishes two Confessions, but places one before Baptism, and the other after: "What can be more beautiful than the words by which we renounce the devil? Or those by which we associate ourselves with Christ? Than that confession which comes before the washing? Or that which comes after the washing?"

This first unction is not mentioned by Tertullian, nor in any genuine work of Justin Martyr, but in the *Responsiones ad Orthodoxos*, a work which though still early is regarded as certainly spurious, we find the question put, "Why are we first anointed with oil, and then, having performed the before-mentioned symbolic acts in the Laver, are afterwards sealed with the ointment, and do not regard this as done in opposition to what took place in our Lord's case, who was first anointed with ointment and then suffered²?" And in the answer it is stated that "We are anointed with the simple oil that we may be made Christs (Χριστοί), but with the ointment in remembrance of our Saviour Christ, who regarded the anointing with ointment as His burial, and called us to the fellowship of His own sufferings and glory, typically in the present life but truly in the life to come."

Cyril attributes to this "exorcised oil" the same power as to Exorcism itself, "not only to burn and cleanse away the traces of sin, but also to chase away all the invisible powers of the evil one³."

According to the directions concerning this first unction in the *Apostolical Constitutions*⁴, the Bishop was first to anoint the head only, the anointing of the whole body being then completed by the Deacon or Deaconess.

§ 4. *Baptism*. After this anointing the Candidates were "led by the hand to the sacred pool of Holy Baptism⁵." This pool (κολυμβήθρα) was supplied with water raised from the reservoirs, of which, as we shall see, the Bordeaux Pilgrim speaks in his description of the Basilica.

As great multitudes both of men and women were baptized at the special seasons, the Baptisteries were large buildings outside the Church, such as the Baptistery of the Lateran, said to have been originally built by Constantine. The font itself also was large enough for several persons to be baptized at the same time. In some places the men were baptized first, and then the women: in others different parts of the Baptistery were assigned to them, and curtains were hung across the Font itself⁶.

The consecration of the water is not mentioned in the Didache or Justin Martyr; but Tertullian thus describes its effect: "The waters after invocation of God acquire the sacramental power of sanctification; for immediately the Spirit comes down from heaven upon the waters, and rests upon them, sanctifying them from Himself, and they being thus sanctified imbibe a power of sanctifying⁷."

In the prayer of consecration given in the Apostolic Constitutions the Bishop is directed first to offer adoration and thanksgiving to the Father and Son, and then to call upon the Father and say: "Look down from heaven, and sanctify this water, and give it grace and power, that so he that is to be baptized, according to the command of Thy Christ, may be crucified with Him, and may die with Him, and may be buried with Him, and may rise with Him to the adoption which is in Him, that he may be dead to sin, and live to righteousness⁸."

Cyril ascribes the like effect to the consecration of the water, as imparting to it a new power of holiness by "the invocation of the Holy Ghost, and of Christ, and of the Father⁹."

While standing in the water the Candidate made what Cyril calls "the saving con

¹Ephes. i. Hom. i. § 3.

²*Quæstio* 137.

³*Mystag.* ii. § 3.

⁴*Lib.* iii. c. 15.

⁵*Mystag.* ii. § 4.

⁶Bingham, *Ant.* VIII. c. 7, § 2; XI. c. 11, § 3.

⁷*De Baptismo*, c. iv.

⁸VII. c. 43.

⁹*Cat.* iii. § 3. See also Introduction, ch. vi. § 2.

xxxii

fession¹.” The whole Creed having been already recited (*Redditio Symboli*) in the outer chamber immediately after the Renunciation, a short form was now employed containing only the necessary declaration of faith in the Holy Trinity, and in the Baptism of Repentance for the remission of sins.

§ 5. *Trine Immersion.* This short confession appears to have been ‘made by way of question and answer thrice repeated. “Thou wast asked, Dost thou believe in God the Father Almighty? Thou saidst, I believe, and dippedst thyself, that is, wast buried. Again thou wast asked, Dost thou believe in our Lord Jesus Christ and in His Cross? Thou saidst, I believe, and dippedst thyself; therefore thou wast buried with Christ also: for he who is buried with Christ, rises again with Christ. A third time thou wast asked, Dost thou believe also in the Holy Ghost? Thou saidst, I believe, a third time thou dippedst thyself; that the threefold confession might absolve the manifold fault of thy former life².” But Cyril of Alexandria, as quoted by Bingham³, “makes these answers not only to be a confession of the three Persons of the Trinity, but a triple confession of Christ; which implies a repetition of the Creed (the shortened form?) three times over.”

In which of these ways the threefold interrogation (“*usitata et legitima verba interrogationis*”) was made at Jerusalem, is not quite certain from Cyril’s words: “Each was asked, Dost thou believe in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost, and ye made that saving confession, and went down thrice into the water⁴.” The *Didaché*⁵ enjoins baptism simply into the names of the Three Persons of the Holy Trinity. Justin Martyr⁶ adds a few words only to the names “of God the Father and Lord of the universe, and of our Saviour Jesus Christ, and of the Holy Spirit;” and Tertullian⁷ observes that “Wherever there are three, that is, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, there is the Church, which is a body of three.” The trine immersion had reference not only to the Trinity, but was also a symbol of the three days of our Saviour’s burial⁸. The use of the three Holy Names was made more strictly indispensable as heresies were multiplied: thus the 49th Apostolic Canon, which, Hefele says, “must be reckoned among the most ancient Canons of the Church,” orders that “If any Bishop or Presbyter does not baptize, according to the Lord’s command, into the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, but into three Beings without beginning, or into three Sons, or three Comforters, he shall be deprived.”

We see here that the power of administering Baptism was not restricted to the Bishop: and Cyril speaks of it as possessed by “Bishops, or Presbyters, or Deacons,” assigning as the reason the great increase of believers, “for the grace is everywhere, in villages and in cities, on them of low as on them of high degree, on bondsmen and on freemen⁹.”

Thus the rule of Ignatius¹⁰, that “it is not lawful either to baptize or to hold a love-feast apart from the Bishop (*χωρὶς τοῦ ἐπισκόπου*),” must be understood to mean “without the authority and permission of the Bishop.”

Of certain minor ceremonies connected with Baptism, such as the “Kiss of peace,” and the taste of milk and honey administered to the neophyte¹¹, no mention is made by Cyril.

§ 6. *Chrism*. The custom of anointing the baptized with consecrated ointment is regarded by Cyril as a sacramental act representing the anointing of Jesus by the Spirit at His Baptism. “As the Holy Ghost in substance lighted on Him, like resting upon like, so, after you had come up from the pool of the sacred waters, there was given to you an unction the counterpart (τὸ ἀντίτυπον) of that wherewith He was anointed, and this is the Holy Ghost¹².” As “He was anointed with a spiritual oil of gladness, that is with the Holy Ghost,

¹*Mystag.* ii. § 4.

²Pseudo-Ambros. *de Sacramentis*, II. c. 7.

³*Ant.* XI. c. 7, § 11.

⁴*Mystag.* iii. § 4.

⁵Cap. vii.

⁶*Apolog.* I. c.

⁷*De Baptismo*, c. vi.

⁸*Mystag.* ii. § 4, note 3.

⁹Cat. xvii. 35.

¹⁰*Ad Smyrn.* c. viii.

¹¹Bingham, *Ant.* XII. c. 4, §§ 5, 6.

¹²*Mystag.* iii. § 1.

xxxiii

called oil of gladness, because He is the author of spiritual gladness, so ye were anointed with ointment, and made partakers and fellows of the Christ¹.” The ceremony was very ancient: there is probably a reference to it in the words of Theophilus of Antioch² (c. A.D. 170): “We are called Christians, because we are anointed with the oil of God.” Tertullian, a little later, after speaking of Baptism, says: “Immediately on coming out of the Laver we are thoroughly anointed with a consecrated unction³,” and again, “After that, the hand is laid upon us in benediction, invoking and inviting the Holy Ghost⁴.” In another passage⁵ he mentions also the sign of the Cross: “The flesh is washed, that the soul may be cleansed; the flesh is anointed that the soul may be consecrated, the flesh is signed [with the Cross] that the soul also may be guarded; the flesh is overshadowed by imposition of the hand, that the soul also may be illuminated by the Spirit.”

The consecration of the ointment is compared by Cyril to the consecration of the Eucharist; after the invocation of the Holy Ghost it is no longer simple or common ointment, but a gift (Χάρισμα) of Christ, and by the presence of the Holy Ghost is able to impart of His Divine Nature. And this ointment is symbolically applied to thy forehead, and thy other organs of sense⁶.”

The ears, nostrils, and breast were each to be anointed, and Cyril explains the symbolical meaning in each case by appropriate passages of Scripture⁷.

The consecration of the chrism could be performed by none but the Bishop, and he alone could anoint the forehead⁸, Presbyters being allowed to anoint the breast, but only with chrism received from the Bishop⁹. The several ceremonies are thus explained in the *Apostolical Constitutions*¹⁰: “This baptism is given into the death of

Jesus: the water is instead of the burial, and the oil instead of the Holy Ghost; the seal instead of the Cross; the ointment is the confirmation of the Confession¹¹ .”

In like manner the chrism is explained again, “The ointment is the seal of the covenants¹² ,” that is, both of God’s promises, and of the Baptismal vows.

The members to be anointed were not the same in all Churches, but everywhere the chief ceremony was the anointing of the forehead with the sign of the Cross. This is what Cyril calls “the Royal Sign¹³ ,” and “the Royal Seal to be borne upon the forehead of Christ’s soldiers¹⁴ ,” and again, “The Seal of the fellowship of the Holy Ghost¹⁵ .”

These last were probably the very words pronounced by the Bishop in making the sign of the Cross on the forehead, for by Canon 7 of the Second General Council at Antioch (381), converts from heretical sects were to be “sealed or anointed with the holy ointment on the forehead, eyes, nostrils, mouth, and ears. And in sealing them we say, ‘The seal of the gift of the Holy Ghost.’”

An additional prayer to be said by the Bishop is given in the Apostolical Constitutions¹⁶ : “O Lord God, the Unbegotten, who hast no Lord, who art Lord of all, who madest the odour of the knowledge of the Gospel to go forth among all nations, grant also now that this ointment may be efficacious upon him that is baptized (βαπτισζομένῳ), that the sweet odour of thy Christ may remain firm and stable in him, and that having died with Him, he may arise and live with Him.”

The whole ceremony was called by the Greeks “Chrism,” the “Unction” being regarded by them as the chief part. In the Latin Church the name Confirmation is of later date, and indicates that greater importance was then attached to the “Laying on of Hands” with prayer.

¹*Mystag.* iii. § 2.

²*Ad Autolyicum*, i.

³*De Bapt.* c. 7.

⁴*Ib.* c. 8.

⁵*De Resurr. Carnis*, c. 8.

⁶*Ib.* § 3.

⁷*Myst.* iii. § 4.

⁸*Apost. Const.* iii. § 16: “Let the Bishop anoint those that are baptized with ointment (μύρω).”

⁹See the authorities in Bingham, *Ant.* xii. c. 2, §§ 1, 2.

¹⁰*iii.* 17.

¹¹*Const. Apost.* vii. c. 22.

¹²*Ib.* vii. c. 43. Cf. *Cat.* iii. 17.

¹³*Cat.* iv. § 14.

¹⁴Ib. xii. § 8.

¹⁵Ib. xviii. 33.

¹⁶vii. c. 44.

xxxiv

Another ceremony, not alluded to by Cyril, was the saying of the Lord's Prayer by the neophyte, standing up, and facing towards the East¹, after which he was also to pray, "O God Almighty, the Father of Thy Christ, Thine Only-begotten Son, give me a body undefiled, a clean heart, a watchful mind, an unerring knowledge, the influence (ἐπιφοίτησιν) of the Holy Ghost for attainment and full assurance of the truth, through Thy Christ, by whom be glory to Thee in the Holy Ghost for ever. Amen."

Chapter V.—Eucharistic Rites. Liturgy.

§ 1. *First Communion.* When the rites of Baptism and Chrism were completed, the new-made Christians, clothed in white robes (*Myst.* iv. 8), and bearing each a lighted taper in his hand, passed in procession from the Baptistry into the great "Church of the Resurrection." The time was still night, as we gather from the allusion in *Procat.*, § 15: "May God at length shew you that night, that darkness which shines like the day, concerning which it is said, darkness shall not be hidden from thee, and the night shall be light as the day." As the newly-baptized entered the church, they were welcomed in the words of the 32nd Psalm. "Even now," says Cyril (*Procat.*, § 15), "let your ears ring, as it were, with that glorious sound, when over your salvation the Angels shall chant, *Blessed are they whose iniquities are forgiven, and whose sins are covered*; when like stars of the Church you shall enter in, bright in the body and radiant in the soul." During the chanting of the Psalm the neophytes seem to have stood in front of the raised 'bema' or sanctuary, as we learn from Cyril's eloquent contemporary, Gregory Nazianzen, *Orat.* XL. § 46: "The station in which presently after Baptism thou wilt stand before the great sanctuary prefigures the glory from yonder heaven; the psalmody, with which thou wilt be welcomed, is a prelude of those heavenly hymns; the lamps, which thou wilt light, are a mystic sign of the procession of lights, with which bright and virgin souls shall go forth to meet the Bridegroom, with the lamps of faith burning brightly."

From the Syriac "Treatise of Severus, formerly Patriarch of Alexandria (Antioch), concerning the rites of Baptism and of Holy Communion (Synaxis) as received among the Syrian Christians" (Resch, *Agrapha*, § 12, p. 361); we learn that it was the custom "to lift up the newly-baptized to the altar, and after giving them the mysteries the Bishop (*Sacerdos*) crowned them with garlands."

The white garments (*Procat.*, § 2: *Mystag.*, iv. 88) were worn until the Octave of Easter, Low Sunday, *Dominica in Albis* (Bingham, XII. c. iv. § 3).

§ 2. THE LITURGY. In Cyril's last Lecture, *Mystagogic* V., he reminds his hearers of what they had witnessed at their first Communion on Easter-day, and thus gives a most valuable testimony to the prescribed form of administering the Holy Eucharist in the Eastern Church in the middle of the fourth century.

Passing over all the preparatory portion of the Liturgy, he tells us first that the Deacon brings water to the Bishop or Priest (τῷ ἱερεῖ) and to the Presbyters who stand round the altar, that they may wash their hands in token of the need of purification from sin; a ceremony which evidently had reference to the words of the Psalmist, "I will wash mine hands in innocency; so will I compass Thine altar, O Lord²." In some Churches, perhaps also at Jerusalem, the words were actually chanted during the ablution³.

"Then the Deacon cries aloud, Receive ye one another: and let us salute (ἀσπαζώμεθα) one another." In the Clementine Liturgy⁴ the "Kiss of Peace" precedes the "Ablution."

¹*Const. Apost.* vii. c. 44.

²*Mystag.* v. § 2.

³*Dict. Chr. Ant.* “Lavabo.”

⁴*Apost. Const.* viii. c. 11.

xxxv

Sometimes these two sentences are combined: “Salute ye one another with the holy kiss¹.” In the Liturgy of S. James there are two separate rubrics, one immediately after the dismissal of the Catechumens, “Take knowledge one of another,” and a second after the Creed, “Let us embrace (ἀγαπήσωμεν) one another with a holy kiss.”

“After this the Priest (ιερεὺς) cries aloud, Lift up your hearts. Then ye answer, We lift them up unto the Lord².”

The meaning of this Preface, as explained by Cyril, is an exhortation by the Priest, or Bishop when present, and a promise by the people, to raise all their thoughts to God on high, in preparation for the great Thanksgiving to which they were further invited: “Let us give thanks unto the Lord,”—“It is meet and right³.”

Then follows a very brief summary of the Eucharistic Preface, and after that the Trisagion⁴, corresponding in part to the long Thanksgiving in the *Apostolic Constitutions* for all God's mercies in creation, providence, and redemption⁵.

It is important to observe how S. Cyril in this and the following sections associates the people with the Priest, using throughout the Plural “We.” That this is intentional and significant, we may learn from a passage of S. Chrysostom⁶ which is so interesting that we may be allowed to translate it at length: “Sometimes moreover no difference is made between the Priest and those over whom he presides, as for example when we are to partake of the awful mysteries; for we are all alike deemed worthy of the same privileges: not as in the Old Covenant some parts were eaten by the Priest, and others by the governed (ὁ ἀρχόμενος), and it was not lawful for the people to share in what the Priest partook of. It is not so now: but one Body is set before all, and one Cup. And in the prayers also one may see the laity contributing much. For the prayers on behalf of the Energumens, and on behalf of those in Penitence are offered in common both by the Priest and by themselves; and all say one prayer, a prayer that is full of compassion. Again, after we have excluded from the sacred precincts those who are unable to partake of the Holy Table, there is another prayer to be made, and we all alike lie prostrate on the floor, and all alike rise up. When again we are to receive and give a kiss of peace, we all alike embrace each other. Again even amid the most tremendous Mysteries the Priest prays over the people, and the people over the Priest: for the formula, “With Thy Spirit,” is nothing else than this. The words of the Thanksgiving again are common: for he does not give thanks alone, but also the whole people. For having first got their answer, and they agreeing that ‘It is meet and right so to do,’ he then begins the thanksgiving. And why wonder that the people sometimes speak with the Priest, when even with the very Cherubim and the Powers on high they send up those sacred hymns in common. Now all this I have said in order that each of the common people (τῶν ἀρχομένων) also may be vigilant, that we may learn that we are all one Body, having only as much difference between one and another, as between members and members, and may not cast the whole work upon the Priests, but ourselves also care for the whole Church even as for a common Body.”

It is remarkable that in Cyril's account of the Eucharistic rites in this Lecture there is not the slightest reference to the words of Institution, though these hold so prominent a place before the Invocation both in the Clementine Liturgy and in the Liturgy of S. James. But we cannot justly assume, from a mere omission in so brief a summary, that the Commemoration of the Institution had no place in the Liturgy then in use at Jerusalem. It seems more probable that Cyril did not think it necessary, after his repeated references to the Institution in the preceding Lecture, to make further mention of a custom so well known as the recitation of Christ's own words in the course of the Prayer preceding the Invocation. On

¹*Apost. Const.* viii. c. 11. Compare Justin M. *Apolog.* I. c. 65.

²*Mystag.* v. § 4.

³§ 5.

⁴§ 6.

⁵*Apost. Const.* viii. c. 12. See the Eucharistic Preface of the Liturgy of S. James in note 4 on *Mystag.* v. § 6.

⁶*In Epist. II. ad Cor.* Homil. xviii. § 3.

xxxvi

the previous day he had quoted S. Paul's account of the Institution, with the remark, "Since then He Himself has declared and said of the Bread, This is My Body, who shall dare doubt any longer? And since He has Himself affirmed and said, This is My Blood, who shall ever hesitate, saying that it is not His Blood¹?" The like efficacy he again ascribes to "the Lord's declaration" concerning both the Bread and the Wine, that they are "the Body and Blood of Christ²."

In the *Didaché*, which gives the oldest elements of an Eucharistic Service, there is neither the Commemoration nor the Invocation, but only two short and simple forms of Thanksgiving "for the Holy Vine of David," and "for the broken Bread³."

Justin Martyr seems to imply that the consecration is effected by the Commemoration of Christ's own words in the Institution: "We have been taught," he says, "that the food which is blessed by the prayer of the word which comes from Him (τὴν δι' εὐχῆς λόγου τοῦ παρ' αὐτοῦ εὐχαριστηθεῖσαν τροφήν), and by which our blood and flesh are by transmutation nourished, is the Flesh and Blood of that Jesus who was made Flesh." He gives no separate Invocation of the Holy Ghost, but this may have been supplied in the "praise and glory" or in the "prayer and thanksgivings" sent up "to the Father of all through the name of the Son and of the Holy Ghost⁴."

Irenæus is apparently the earliest writer who represents the Invocation of the Holy Ghost as the immediate act of consecration: "We make an oblation to God of the bread and the cup of blessing, giving Him thanks for that He has commanded the earth to bring forth these fruits for our nourishment. And then, having completed the oblation, we call forth (ἐκκαλοῦμεν) the Holy Spirit, that He may exhibit this sacrifice, both the bread the Body of Christ, and the cup the Blood of Christ, in order that the partakers of these antitypes may obtain the remission of sins and life eternal⁵."

Mr. Hammond writes that, "By the Oriental Churches an Invocation of the Holy Spirit is considered necessary to complete the consecration. In the three Oriental Families of Liturgies such an Invocation is invariably found shortly after the Words of Institution⁶."

It is in accordance with this statement that, we find Cyril so frequently declaring that the elements which before the Invocation are simple bread and wine, become after the Invocation the Body and Blood of Christ⁷. In the first of the passages referred to below he speaks of "the Holy Invocation of the Adorable Trinity," in the others of the Holy Spirit only.

Cyril next describes the Invocation as "completing the Spiritual Sacrifice, the bloodless Service," and then gives a summary of the "Great Intercession" as made "over that Sacrifice of the Propitiation." The Intercession, as represented by Cyril, is not simply a prayer, but an offering of the Sacrifice⁸, and this is in accordance with the usual language of the Liturgies." We offer to Thee, O Lord, on behalf also of Thy holy places, which Thou hast glorified by the Theophany of Thy Christ, and by the visitation of Thine All-Holy Spirit: especially on behalf of glorious Sion, the Mother of all the Churches, and on behalf of Thy Holy Catholic and Apostolic Church throughout the whole world⁹." In the Liturgy of S. Chrysostom, as now commonly used in the Orthodox Eastern Church, we find the fuller phrase, "We offer unto Thee *this reasonable Service* on behalf of the world, on behalf of the Holy Catholic and Apostolic Church¹⁰."

In some particulars Cyril's summary agrees most nearly with the Clementine Liturgy, as, for example, in the prayer "for the King and those in authority, and for the whole army, that they may be at peace with us¹¹." In others he follows the Liturgy of S. James,

¹*Mystag.* iv. § 1.

²*Ib.* § 6: see also § 7.

³*Capp.* ix., x.

⁴*Apol.* I. cc. 65–67.

⁵*Frag.* xxxviii.

⁶*Liturgies*, p. 382.

⁷*Mystag.* v. i. § 7; iii. § 3; v. § 7.

⁸*Mystag.* v. § 8: ταύτην προσφέρομεν τὴν θυσίαν.

⁹Hammond, *Liturgy of S. James*, p. 43.

¹⁰*Ib.* p. 115.

¹¹*Ib.* p. 18.

xxxvii

as in the intercession for “every Christian soul afflicted and distressed, that stands in need of Thy pity and succour¹.”

Cyril next describes the commemoration of departed Saints, and “of all who in past years have fallen asleep among us,” that is, in the bosom of the Church, and states his belief “that it will be a very great benefit to the souls, for whom the supplication is put up while that holy and most awful Sacrifice is presented².” He refers to objections against this belief, and brings forward in defence of it a reason applicable only to sinners: “When we offer,” he says, “our supplications for those who have fallen asleep, though they be sinners, we offer up Christ sacrificed for our sins, propitiating our merciful God for them as well as for ourselves³.” His language on this subject seems in fact to shew an advance in doctrine beyond the earliest Liturgies. In those of S. James and S. Basil we find prayers that the offering may be acceptable as a propitiation “for the rest of the souls that have fallen asleep aforetime,” and again, “that we may find mercy and grace with all the Saints who have ever been pleasing in Thy sight from generation to generation, forefathers, fathers, Patriarchs, Prophets, Apostles, Martyrs, Confessors, Teachers, holy men, and every righteous spirit made perfect in the faith of Thy Christ.”

There is nothing here, nor in the Clementine Liturgy, nor in that of S. Mark, corresponding to the purpose which Cyril ascribes to the commemoration, “that at their prayers and intercessions God would receive our petition.” In the Anaphora of S. Chrysostom contained in the later form of the Liturgy of Constantinople we find, apparently for the first time, this prayer added to the commemoration of all Saints, “at whose supplications look upon us, O God.”

There was much controversy on the subject of prayers for the dead in Cyril’s time, and the objections which he notices were brought into prominence by Ærius, and rebuked by Epiphanius⁴.

From the commemoration of the departed Cyril passes at once to the Lord’s Prayer⁵, omitting the Preface which is found in the Liturgies of S. James and S. Mark. In the Clementine Liturgy, contrary to general use, the Lord’s Prayer is not said at all. Cyril adds an exposition of each petition, and gives an unusual explanation of ἐπιούσιος, for which see the footnote: he also explains τοῦ πονηροῦ as referring to “the wicked one,” following in this the Embolismus of S. James, “deliver us from the wicked one and from his works.”

“After this the Bishop says, Holy things for holy men⁶.” Chrysostom explains this as being both an invitation to the Faithful in general to communicate, and a warning to the unholy to withdraw. “The Bishop, with loud voice and awe-inspiring cry, raising high his arm like a herald, and standing on high in sight of all, above that awful silence cries aloud, inviting some and repelling others, and doing this not with his hand, but with his tongue more clearly than with the hand.....For when he says, Holy things for the holy, he means this: Whosoever is not holy, let him not draw near⁷.”

In regard to the doctrinal significance of the formula, Dr. Waterland’s remarks should be consulted⁸.

The response of the people to the “Sancta Sanctis” is given by Cyril⁹ in accordance with the Liturgy of S. James and the Clementine: “One is Holy, One is the Lord, Jesus Christ:” but he does not mention the “Gloria in excelsis” nor the “Hosanna,” both of which follow here in the Clementine.

“After this,” says Cyril, “ye hear the chanter inviting you with a sacred melody to the Communion of the Holy Mysteries, and saying, *O taste and see that the Lord is good*¹⁰. This

¹Hammond, *Liturgy of S. James*, p. 44.

²§ 9.

³§ 10.

⁴*Hæres.* lxxv. § 7. Cf. *Bingh. Ant.* XV. c. 3, § 16; *Dict Chr. Biog.* “Aerius.”

⁵*Mystag.* V. § 11.

⁶*Ib.* § 19.

⁷*Hom. xvii. in Hebr.* These Homilies were edited after Chrysostom’s death.

⁸*A Review of the Doctrine of the Eucharist*, c. x.

⁹§ 19.

¹⁰§ 20.

agrees with the Clementine rubric: “Let the 33rd Psalm be sung while all the rest are partaking.” In the Liturgy of S. James, while the Bishop is breaking the Bread and dipping in the Wine, the “Agnus Dei” and several Psalms were sung: but of these there is no mention in the Clementine Liturgy or in Cyril.

On Cyril’s directions for receiving the Bread and the Cup with due reverence, see the footnotes on the passages¹.

His final injunction to remain for the prayer and thanksgiving is taken from that in the Clementine Liturgy: “Having partaken of the precious Body and the precious Blood of Christ, let us give thanks to Him who hath counted us worthy to partake of His holy Mysteries.” The thanksgiving, benediction, concluding prayers, and dismissal, vary much in the different Liturgies.

Chapter VI.—Effects of Baptism and of Chrism.

§ 1. *Baptism.* When we try to ascertain the exact relation between Baptism and the Unction or Chrism which immediately followed, we find that Cyril’s teaching on the subject has been understood in very different senses. By

some he is thought to regard the Unction as being merely an accessory rite of the one great Sacrament of Baptism; to others he seems to draw a clear distinction between them, assigning to each its proper grace and efficacy.

The former view is stated by the Oxford editor, Milles, in his note on the words: "And in like manner to you also, after you had come up from the pool of the sacred waters, there was given an unction, a figure (ἀντίτυπον) of that with which Christ was anointed; and that is the Holy Ghost²." "It is evident," says Milles, "from his words here, that the Chrism of which Cyril treats in this Lecture is not to be referred to the Unction which is administered by the Romanists in Confirmation. For every one sees that by Unction in this passage a ceremony of Baptism is indicated. The ancients employed two Unctions in Baptism, the first before the immersion in the water, of which he spoke in the preceding Lecture; the second immediately upon ascending from the water, of which he speaks in this Lecture."

This opinion is elaborately discussed by the Benedictine editor, Touttée, *Dissertatio* iii. c. 7, who argues that the Unction described by Cyril is a Sacrament distinct from Baptism, that it has for its proper grace the gift of the Holy Spirit, and further that this gift is not conferred in Baptism. Of these assertions the first and second appear to represent Cyril's view correctly: the last is an exaggeration and a mistake, the tendency of which is to identify the Chrism of the Eastern Church with that which is used in Confirmation by the Roman Church, and to exalt the rite of Confirmation as a proper Sacrament distinct from Baptism, and even superior to it. A view differing in some respects from both of these has been recently put forward by a learned and devout writer of our own Church, who has fully discussed the teaching of Cyril and other Eastern Fathers, and gives the result of his investigation in the following "Summary³:" "For very many centuries the Christians of the East have never been forced to define to themselves at all clearly the position of a person baptized but unconfirmed. Their mode of administering Confirmation (*Chrism?*) by the hands of the baptizing Presbyter—though among the Greeks and some others with chrism prepared by the Bishop—relieves them from the necessity which weighs upon us Westerns, of teaching Christian children what their status is between the two rites. Confirmation (*Chrism?*) is for them, far more than it has been for a long while in the West, a factor in Baptism. Only

¹§§ 21, 22.

²*Mystag.* iii. § 1.

³A. J. Mason, D.D., *The Relation of Confirmation to Baptism*, p. 389. Though I find myself compelled to differ widely from my friend Canon Mason in the interpretation of Cyril's teaching on this subject, I cannot refrain from expressing my sincere admiration of the tone and purpose of his treatise, and of the learning and research which it exhibits.

a more or less conscious desire not to fall behind Western teachers in honouring the perfecting Unction can have led their later authorities to treat that Unction as a sacrament numerically distinct from Baptism. To all the early doctors of the East the two things are one, and Baptism culminates in the Unction. The tendency among Oriental Christians was, not to attribute to Baptism in our modern sense the gift of the Holy Ghost, but rather to consider Baptism by itself as a bare rite, benefiting the body alone, and dependent for its spiritual efficacy upon other actions, after and before. Not that this tendency has its full way. The Greek Fathers may be said certainly on the whole to trace the forgiveness of sins, the preparatory cleansing, to the baptismal Laver; the gift of the Holy Ghost, for the ordinary purposes of Christian living, they trace, like S. Chrysostom, to that act which comes "immediately after Baptism, and before the Mysteries."

When we come to inquire how far these several theories agree with the teaching of Cyril himself, we must in the outset put aside altogether the name *Confirmation*: for as applied to the Unction used in the Eastern Church it is only confusing and misleading. In the early ages of the Church *Confirmation* was not known even by name. In the Latin Church "neither Tertullian, Cyprian, Ambrose, Augustine, Jerome, nor any of the Latin Fathers, makes mention of *Confirmation* in this sense. Nor have the Greeks any word to answer to this Latin term¹." So far, therefore, Milles appears to be perfectly right in refusing to connect the Chrism of which Cyril treats with the Unction used in Confirmation by the Roman Church.

We may add that in Cyril's account of Chrism it is wholly unconnected with Confirmation, both in its symbolic reference and in its outward form. Chrism, he says, is the antitype of the Unction of Christ by the Holy Ghost at His Baptism: Confirmation is universally admitted to have been a following of the Apostles in their laying on of hands. But in that Apostolic rite there was no unction, and in Chrism there was no such laying on of hands.

In several passages Cyril clearly distinguishes the outward form of Baptism from the spiritual grace.

"If thy body be here, but not thy mind, it profiteth thee nothing. Even Simon Magus once came to the Laver: he was baptized, but was not enlightened; and though he dipped his body in water, he enlightened not his heart with the Spirit: his body went down and came up, but his soul was not buried with Christ, nor raised with Him²."

It is impossible here to regard "the Spirit" as referring to the grace of Unction: for (1) Baptism was not accompanied by Unction in the time of the Apostles, and (2) we should thus make a false antithesis between the outward part of the one rite ("he dipped his body in water"), and the *inward* part of the other. Here, therefore, Cyril attributes enlightenment of the heart by the Spirit to Baptism apart from Unction, and at the same time lays stress upon the difference between the worthy and unworthy recipient of the outward form.

The importance of this difference is further enforced throughout the next two sections, and at the close of § 4 the distinction between the outward sign and inward grace of Baptism, strictly so called, is again asserted, "though the water will receive thee, the Spirit will not accept thee."

"Some might suppose," it is said, "from these words that Cyril thought of water and the Spirit as the sign and the thing signified in Baptism respectively, and a passage in a later Lecture upon the subject of the Sacrament (of Baptism) at first confirms that impression³."

To suppose that Cyril had any other thought in the former passage, seems to me impossible for any ordinary reader, and the later passage, not only at first, but more fully the longer it is considered, confirms that impression beyond all doubt. The whole quotation, including Cat. iii. §§ 3, 4, is too long to repeat here, but may be read in its proper place.

¹Suicer, *Thesaurus*, Χρόισμα.

²*Procat.* § 2.

³Mason, *ubi supr.*, p. 337.

It will be sufficient to give the passages which are of chief importance in the question before us, according to Canon Mason's translation.

Cat. iii. § 3. "Do not attend to the laver as mere water, but to the spiritual grace given along with the water"... "the mere water, receiving the invocation of the Holy Ghost, and of Christ, and of the Father, acquires a power of sanctity. For since man is a two-fold being composed of soul and body, the cleansing element also is two-fold, the incorporeal for the incorporeal, the bodily for the body. And the water cleanses the body, but the Spirit seals the soul, in order that having our hearts sprinkled by the Spirit, and our bodies washed with pure water, we may draw nigh to God. When, therefore, you are about to go down into the water do not pay attention to the mere nature of the water, but expect salvation by the operation of the Holy Ghost. For without both it is impossible for thee to be perfected."

No words could state more clearly the distinction between the outward sign and the inward grace of Baptism, and the absolute necessity for both. There is no possible reference to Unction, but "the operation of the Holy Ghost" in cleansing and sealing the soul is unmistakably connected with Baptism as "the grace given with the water" (μετὰ τοῦ ὕδατος), and below, as "the seal by water" (τὴν δι' ὕδατος σφραγίδα), the latter phrase shewing that Baptism by water is the *signum efficax* of the grace in question.

Cyril then quotes our Lord's words, *Except a man be born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God*, and explains them thus: "On the one hand he who is being baptized (βαπτιζόμενος) with the water, but has not had the Spirit vouchsafed to him (καταξιωθείς), has not the grace in perfection: on the other hand, even if a man be distinguished for virtue in his deeds, but does not receive the seal bestowed by means of water (τὴν δι' ὕδατος σφραγίδα), he shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven." Canon Mason, whose translation I have followed, finds here a reference both to Baptism and to Unction as "the first baptismal act and the second," and in support of this interpretation gives a second and more emphatic version: "He who is in course of being baptized with the water, but has not yet had the Spirit vouchsafed to him, has not the grace in perfection." This introduction of the word "yet," in order to represent a distinction between two separate acts, is not justified either by the reading of the older editions (οὐδὲ τῷ ὕδατι βαπτιζόμενος μὴ καταξιωθείς δὲ τοῦ Πνεύματος), nor by that of Codices Monac. Roe, Casaub. adopted by Reischl (οὔτε ὁ βεβαπτισμένος κ.τ.λ.), nor by the Benedictine text (οὔτε ὁ βαπτιζόμενος κ.τ.λ.). The obvious meaning of the passage, with either reading, is that "the man who in Baptism did not receive the Holy Spirit, has not the grace (of Baptism) complete." The Benedictine Editor in his elaborate argument for regarding Chrism as a distinct sacrament¹, does not even refer to this passage.

A statement which is important in this connexion is found in *Mystag.* ii. § 6: "Let no one then suppose that Baptism is the grace of remission of sins only, or further of adoption, as the Baptism of John conferred only remission of sins; but as we know full well that it cleanses from sins and procures a gift of the Holy Spirit, so also it is a counterpart (ἀντίτυπον) of the sufferings of Christ."

Here besides "the remission of sins, which no man receiveth without the Holy Spirit²," we find "a gift of the Holy Ghost," and the fellowship of Christ's Passion distinctly attributed to Baptism.

If the "adoption" mentioned at the beginning of this passage were identical (as Touttée thinks) with the "gift of the Holy Ghost," it would by no means follow that Cyril here means to include Unction in Baptism. For the grace which beyond all others is exclusively attached to Baptism, and not to Unction, is the new birth, and this is "the new birth into freedom

¹Dissert. iii. c. 8.

²Hooker, *E.P.V.* lxvi. § 6.

and adoption¹." In fact Cyril's teaching on this point is in strict accordance with that of St. Paul in [Gal. iv. 4-6](#), that we first *receive the adoption of sons* (υιοθεσίαν), and then "*because ye are sons, God sent forth the Spirit of His Son into our hearts, crying, Abba, Father.*" So again in [Rom. viii. 15, 16](#), he says, "*Ye received the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father. The Spirit Himself beareth witness with our spirit that we are the children of God.*" In both passages St. Paul clearly distinguishes two things, "the adoption" itself, and the witness of it by "the Spirit of adoption." Cf. Bengel on v. 4: "*Prius adoptionem, deinde Spiritum adoptionis accepimus;*" and on v. 6: "*Filiorum statum sequitur inhabitatio Spiritus Sancti, non hanc ille.*" The adoption itself belongs to Baptism strictly so called, in which we are made children of God and joint heirs with Christ (cf. Cat. iii. 15): the witness of the indwelling Spirit of adoption is the special grace ascribed to Chrism in the Eastern Church, and to Confirmation in the Western. There are many other passages in which Cyril ascribes to Baptism itself, as distinct from Chrism, a gift of the Spirit, such as the following: "But He trieth the soul: He casteth not His pearls before the swine: if thou dissemble, men will baptize thee now, but the Spirit will not baptize thee²."

"The Lord, preventing us according to His loving-kindness, has granted repentance at Baptism, in order that we may cast off the chief—nay, rather the whole burden of our sins, and having received the seal by the Holy Ghost, may be made heirs of eternal life³."

Again, after speaking of "the invocation of grace having sealed the soul," he adds: "Having gone down dead in sins, thou comest up quickened in righteousness. For if thou hast been *united with the likeness of the Saviour's death*, thou shalt also be deemed worthy of His Resurrection⁴." The benefits ascribed to Baptism in these several passages without any allusion to Chrism, are brought together with rhetorical effect in the Introductory Lecture, §

16: "Great is the Baptism that lies before you; a ransom to captives, a remission of offences, a death of sin, a new birth of the soul, a garment of light, a holy indissoluble seal, a chariot to heaven, the delight of Paradise, a welcome into the kingdom, the gift of adoption."

From such language it is clear beyond question that in Cyril of Jerusalem, not to speak of other Oriental Fathers, the tendency is not "to consider Baptism by itself as a bare rite, benefiting the body alone, and dependent for its spiritual efficacy upon other actions after and before," but as depending on the power of the Holy Ghost, and the sincerity of repentance and faith in man.

If further proof were needed, a glance at the Index under the word "Baptism" will shew the extraordinary richness, variety, and precision of Cyril's teaching, as to the gifts of the Holy Ghost conferred therein.

§ 2. *Chrism*. When spiritual blessings so many and so great have been ascribed to Baptism, in what light, it may be asked, does Cyril regard the Unction which follows? Does he treat it as being merely an additional ceremony subordinate to Baptism, or as having for its own proper grace some special gift of the Holy Ghost? We find no answer to this question in the earlier course of Lectures⁵. But that Chrism was not regarded by Cyril as a mere accessory to Baptism, as Milles thought⁶, may be safely inferred from the fact that in announcing the subjects of his Mystagogic Lectures, he mentions first Baptism, then "the seal of the fellowship of the Holy Ghost," and then "the Mysteries at the altar of the New Covenant⁷:" and this inference is fully confirmed by his language elsewhere: "Ye have heard enough of Baptism, and Chrism, and partaking of the Body and Blood of Christ⁸." A mere additional

¹Cat. i. 2.

²Ib. xvii. § 36.

³Ib. iv. 37.

⁴Ib. iii. § 12.

⁵Upon the supposed allusion to Chrism in Cat. xvi. § 26, see below, p. xxxiv.

⁶Note on *Mystag.* iii. § 1.

⁷Cat. xviii. § 33.

⁸*Mystag.* v. § 1.

ceremony of Baptism could not have been so independently placed between the two sacraments, and, as it were, in the same rank with them.

The importance thus attached to Chrism is further shewn in the fact that Cyril uses the very same language in reference to the consecration of the ointment of Chrism and of the water of Baptism, and of the Eucharistic elements. "The bread and wine of the Eucharist before the Invocation of the Holy and Adorable Trinity are simple (λιτός) bread and wine, but after the Invocation the Bread becomes the Body and the Wine the Blood of Christ¹." Regard not the Laver as simple (λιτὸν) water, but rather regard the spiritual grace that is given with the water²." "The simple water having received the Invocation of the Holy Ghost, and of Christ, and of the Father, acquires a new power of holiness³."

"But see thou suppose not this to be plain (ψιλόν) ointment. For as the Bread of the Eucharist, after the Invocation of the Holy Ghost is no longer simple (λιτός) bread, but the Body of Christ; so also this holy ointment is no longer plain (ψιλόν) ointment, nor, as one might say, common, after Invocation, but Christ's gift of grace (χάρισμα), and

is made effectual to impart the Holy Ghost by the presence of His own Godhead⁴.”

The spiritual benefits which Cyril ascribes to the Unction are set forth in the same Lecture. “This holy thing is a spiritual safeguard of the body, and salvation of the soul” (§ 7): it sanctifies all the organs of sense: “the body is anointed with the visible ointment, and the soul is sanctified by the Holy and Life-giving Spirit” (§ 3). After being anointed the Christian is now entitled to that name in its fullest sense⁵; he is clothed with the whole armour of the Holy Ghost, that he may stand against the power of the adversary: he may say, “*I can do all things in Christ who strengtheneth me*” (§ 4).

In regard to the supposed identity of Chrism and Confirmation, it is important to notice carefully how Cyril speaks of the laying on of hands in the only passage where he mentions it⁶.

He first illustrates the freedom of the Spirit, and His independence of human agency, by the gift of prophecy to the seventy elders, including Eldad and Medad: he then refers to the gift of the spirit of wisdom to Joshua by the laying on of Moses’ hands⁷, and adds, “Thou seest everywhere the figure (τύπον) in the Old Testament, and in the New the same. In Moses’ time the Spirit was given by laying on of hands (χειροθεσία), and Peter gives the Spirit by laying on of hands⁸: and upon thee also, who art to be baptized, the grace is about to come; but the manner (τὸ πῶς) I tell thee not, for I do not forestall the time.”

From this passage it has been inferred (i) that Cyril alludes to a gift of the Spirit by laying on of hands in immediate connexion with Baptism and Unction⁹, and (2) that he refers this gift of the Spirit not to Baptism itself, but to the laying on of hands, or to the Unction as a figure that answers to it¹⁰.

(1) The first of these inferences is opposed to the fact that Cyril neither mentions the laying on of hands as part of the actual ceremonial in Baptism or Unction, nor as the analogous rite in the old Testament, but on the contrary expressly says¹¹ that the symbol (τὸ σύμβολον) of this holy Chrism in the Old Testament lies in the consecration of Aaron to be High Priest, when Moses, “after the washing in water anointed him, and he was called ‘anointed,’ evidently from this figurative unction (τοῦ χρίσματος δηλαδή τοῦ τυπικοῦ).”

(2) In support of the second inference the argument offered is as follows: “That the Spirit was to come upon them in the course of their Baptism is here again clearly stated; but that Cyril did not intend them to suppose that Baptism itself would convey the gift is equally clear. Again and again in earlier Lectures, as well as in the words actually before us, Cyril has taught them to expect the gift in Baptism; if therefore the immersion itself were to be the means of

¹[Mystag. i. § 7.](#)

²[Cat. iii. § 3.](#)

³[Ibidem.](#)

⁴[Mystag. iii. 3.](#)

⁵[Ib. iii. § 1.](#)

⁶[Cat. xvi. §§ 25, 26.](#)

⁷[Deut. xxxiv. 9.](#)

⁸[Acts viii. 17.](#)

⁹[Touttée.](#)

¹⁰Mason, p. 341, with note.

¹¹*Mystag.* iii. 6.

xliii

receiving it, *he has already told them his secret*. Yet now he says that he will not tell them ‘how’ they are to receive it. That remains for a future occasion¹.” The mistake, as I venture to consider it, lies in the words which I have marked with italics. For of the mysteries which were to be concealed from the unbaptized (ἀμύητοι) the first was *the manner of administering Baptism* itself, and the second, the unction of Chrism; and in the preceding Lectures Cyril has no more told the secret of the one than of the other. “Baptism, the Eucharist, and the oil of Chrism, were things that the uninitiated (ἀμύητοι) were not allowed to look upon².”

“We bless,” says S. Basil³, “both the water of Baptism and the oil of the Chrism, and moreover the baptized (βαπτιζόμενον) himself. From what written commands? Is it not from a secret (σιωπωμένης) and mystical tradition? Again, the very anointing with the oil, what word of Scripture taught that? And the dipping the man thrice, whence came it? And all the other accompaniments of Baptism, the renunciation of Satan and his angels, from what Scripture came they? Come they not from this unpublished and secret teaching, which our fathers guarded in a silence with which no prying curiosity might meddle, having been well taught to preserve the sanctity of the mysteries by silence? For how could it have been right to publish in writing the doctrine of these mysteries, which the unbaptized are not even allowed to look upon?”

As these secret ceremonies of Baptism and Unction are revealed by Cyril only in the Mystagogic Lectures, the supposed reason for saying, that in Cat. xvi. 26, the promised gift of the Spirit refers not to Baptism but only to Unction, at once falls to the ground.

The true state of the case is well expressed by Bingham⁴, “Though the ancients acquainted the Catechumens with the doctrine of Baptism so far as to make them understand the spiritual nature and design of it, yet they never admitted them to the sight of the actual ceremony, nor so much as to hear any plain discourse about the manner of its administration, till they were fitted and prepared for the actual reception of it,”—or rather, till they actually received it.

There is in fact no reason to exalt the benefits of Unction, or Confirmation, by robbing Baptism of its proper grace. “It was this Unction, as the completion of Baptism, to which they ascribed the power of making every Christian in some sense partaker of a royal priesthood. To it they also ascribed the noble effects of confirming the soul with the strength of all spiritual graces on God’s part, as well as the confirmation of the profession and covenant made on man’s part⁵.” We may well be satisfied that the doctrine of the early Church has been so fully retained in essential points in our own Office of Confirmation, recalling as it does by the ratification of the baptismal vows the immediate connexion of the ancient Unction with Baptism, and in its Prayers invoking the same gifts of the Holy Spirit,—“Strengthen them, we beseech Thee, O Lord, with the Holy Ghost the Comforter, and daily increase in them Thy manifold gifts of grace; the spirit of wisdom and understanding; the spirit of counsel and ghostly strength; the spirit of knowledge and true godliness, and fill them, O Lord, with the spirit of Thy holy fear, now and for ever. Amen.”

Chapter VII.—Eucharistic Doctrine.

We have seen that Cyril makes the consecration of sacramental elements in every case consist in the Invocation of the Holy Ghost, after which the water of Baptism is no longer

¹Mason, p. 341.

²Basil, *apud* Bingham, X. 5, § 4.

³*De Spiritu* S. c. xxvii.

⁴*Ant.* X. v. § 4.

⁵Bingh. XII. iii. § 3. Cf. *Apost. Const.* III. c. 17. "This Baptism therefore is into the death of Jesus: the water is instead of the burial, and the oil instead of the Holy Ghost; the seal instead of the Cross; *the ointment is the confirmation of the Confession.*" VII. 22: "that the anointing with oil may be the participation of the Holy Spirit, and the water the symbol of the death, and the ointment the seal of the covenants."

xliiv

mere simple water¹, the ointment no longer plain ointment², the bread and the wine no longer plain bread and wine, but the Body and Blood of Christ³.

Upon these statements an argument against Transubstantiation has been founded by Bishop Cosin⁴, and adopted both by Dr. Pusey⁵ and Dean Goode⁶. It being universally admitted that the substance of the water and of the ointment remains unchanged, it is argued from the identity of the language employed in each case that, according to Cyril, no *substantial* change takes place in the Bread and Wine. Bishop Cosin quotes the following passage, of which the original is given below: "Take heed thou dost not think that this is a mere ointment only. For as the bread of the Eucharist after the invocation of the Holy Ghost is no longer ordinary bread, but is the body of Christ; so this holy ointment is no longer a bare common ointment after it is consecrated, but is the gift or grace of Christ, which, by His Divine Nature, and the coming of the Holy Ghost, is made efficacious; so that the body is anointed with the ointment, but the soul is sanctified by the holy and vivifying Spirit⁷."

Bishop Cosin proceeds to argue thus: "Can anything more clear be said? Either the ointment is transubstantiated by consecration into the spirit and grace of Christ, or the bread and wine are not transubstantiated by consecration into the Body and Blood of Christ. Therefore as the ointment retains still its substance, and yet is not called a mere or common ointment, but the Chrism or grace of Christ: so the bread and wine remaining so, as to their substance, yet are not said to be only bread and wine common and ordinary, but also the Body and Blood of Christ."

Notwithstanding the great authority of Bishop Cosin, and the assent of Theologians of such opposite schools as Dr. Pusey and Dean Goode, it must be admitted that the argument, even as against Transubstantiation, is pressed beyond its just limits. The identity of language extends only to two points, (1) the mode of consecration by Invocation, (2) the effect negatively stated, that the material element in each case is no longer simply a material element. A change, therefore, of some kind has taken place, and we have still to inquire how the change in each case is described by Cyril. "The water acquires a power of sanctity," otherwise described as "the spiritual grace given with the water⁸."

"The ointment is Christ's gift of grace (Χάρισμα), and becomes effectual to impart by the presence of the Holy Ghost His Divine Nature⁹." "The Bread becomes the Body and the Wine the Blood of Christ¹⁰."

There is here no such identity of language as would justify the assertion that the change described is of the same nature in each case, that because it leaves the substance of the water and the ointment untouched, therefore the substance of the Bread also must, according to Cyril, remain unchanged: this must be proved by other arguments. We must also remember that if this argument based upon the identity of the language used on the two sides of a comparison is trustworthy, there is another passage in Cyril to which it may be applied: "He once, in Cana of Galilee, changed the water into wine akin to blood (οἰκεῖον αἵματι)¹¹, and is it incredible that He changed wine into blood?" The change of the water into wine was a change of substance: are we then prepared to agree with the Roman Church that the change of the bread also is a change of substance? Nay further, would the Roman Church itself accept the principle of the argument? For observe that in fact Bishop Cosin himself, when he comes to deal with this passage, gives up his former argument, and distinctly rejects it.

¹Cat. iii. § 3.

²*Mystag.* iii. § 3.

³*Mystag.* iii. § 3. In the same Lecture, § 7, the consecration of the bread and wine is said to follow "the Invocation of the Holy and Adorable Trinity."

⁴*The History of Popish Transubstantiation*, Ch. v. § 14.

⁵*The Doctrine of the Real Presence*, pp. 277–281.

⁶*The Nature of Christ's Presence in the Eucharist*, p. 483.

⁷Ἄλλ' ὅρα μὴ ὑπονοήσης ἐκεῖνο τὸ μύρον ψιλὸν εἶναι. ὥσπερ γὰρ ὁ ἄρτος τῆς εὐχαριστίας μετὰ τὴν ἐπίκλησιν τοῦ ἁγίου Πνεύματος οὐκ ἔστι ἄρτος λιτός, ἀλλὰ σῶμα Χριστοῦ, οὕτω καὶ τὸ ἅγιον τοῦτο μύρον οὐκ ἔστι ψιλόν, οὐδ' ὡς ἂν εἴποι τις κοινὸν μετ' ἐπίκλησιν, ἀλλὰ Χριστοῦ χάρισμα, καὶ Πνεύματος ἁγίου παρουσία τῆς αὐτοῦ θεότητος ἐνεργητικὸν γινόμενον.

⁸Cat. iii. 3.

⁹*Mystag.* iii. 3. On the translation see note on the passage.

¹⁰Ib. i. § 7.

¹¹On this reading, see *Mystag.* iv. § 2, note 4.

xlv

“Protestants,” he says, “do freely grant and firmly believe that the wine, in the sense already often mentioned, is changed into the Blood of Christ; but every change is not a transubstantiation; neither doth Cyril say that this change (i.e. of the wine) is like that of the water, for then it would appear to our senses; but that He who changed the water sensibly can also change the wine sacramentally, will not be doubted by any¹.” Again, in describing the act of consecration, Cyril says: “We beseech the merciful God to send forth His Holy Spirit upon the gifts lying before Him, that He may make the bread the Body of Christ, and the wine the Blood of Christ, for certainly whatsoever the Holy Ghost has touched, is sanctified and changed (ἡγιάσται καὶ μεταβέβληται)².” Here again, as in the passage quoted from *Myst.* iii. § 3, a sacramental change of some sort is asserted, but its specific character is not defined.

There is, however, a passage which throws some light on Cyril's conception of the change in *Myst.* iv. § 3: “In the figure of Bread is given to thee His Body, and in the figure of Wine His Blood, that thou by partaking of the Body and Blood of Christ mightest be made of the same body and the same blood with Him. For thus we come to bear Christ in us, His Body and His Blood being distributed to our members (εἰς τὰ ἡμέτερα ἀναδιδομένου μέλη).” Several good MSS read ἀναδεδεγμένοι, which would give the meaning, “having received of His Body and of His blood into our members.” This does not alter the general sense of the passage; but the reading ἀναδιδομένου is supported by another passage, *Myst.* v. § 15: “Our common bread is not substantial (ἐπιούσιος): but this Holy Bread is substantial, that is, appointed for the substance of the soul. This Bread *goeth not into the belly and is not cast out into the draught*, but is distributed (ἀναδίδοται) into thy whole system for the benefit of body and soul.”

In order to accommodate these passages to the Roman doctrine of Transubstantiation the Benedictine Editor here introduces the idea of *species*, the outward forms or accidents of the bread. “We must not suppose,” he says, “that Cyril thought the Body of Christ to be divided and digested (*digeri*) into our body; but by a customary way of speaking he attributes to the Holy Body what is suitable only to the species which conceal it. And he does not deny that the species pass into the draught, but only that the Body of Christ does so.”

But Cyril draws no such distinction between the *species* and the Body of Christ: to him the Bread and Wine after consecration are the Body and the Blood of Christ. For how could it be said that the *species*, which in Transubstantiation are the mere outward accidents of bread and wine, are distributed into the whole system for the benefit of body and *soul*?

In whatever sense the bread and wine become by consecration the Body and Blood of Christ, in that same sense the Body and Blood of Christ are, according to Cyril, distributed to our whole system.

This was no new doctrine: Ignatius, *Ephes.* xxi., speaks of Christians as “breaking one Bread, which is the medicine of immortality, and the antidote that we should not die, but live for ever in Jesus Christ.” This is perhaps

the earliest expression of the belief that the resurrection of the body is secured by *the communion of the Body of Christ* in the Eucharist. The manner in which this communion is effected is described by Justin Martyr (*Apolog.* I. § 66) in language which shews clearly what Cyril meant: “We do not receive these things as common bread and common drink: but in the same way as Jesus Christ our Saviour was made flesh by the Word of God, and took both flesh and blood for our salvation, so we have been taught that the food over which thanksgiving has been made by prayer in the word received from Him (τὴν δι’ εὐχῆς λόγου τοῦ παρ’ αὐτοῦ εὐχαριστηθεῖσαν τροφήν), from which (food) our blood and flesh are by transmutation (κατὰ μεταβολήν) nourished, is both the Flesh and Blood of Him the Incarnate Jesus.”

Here it is plainly taught that by consecration the Bread and Wine have become the Flesh and Blood of Christ, and that as such they nourish our “blood and flesh” (observe the

¹*Of Transubstantiation*, Ch. vi. § 14.

²*Mystag.* v. § 7.

xlvi

inverted order) by undergoing a change: in other words, the Eucharistic Body and Blood of Christ are changed into nourishment of our blood and flesh, by being distributed (as Cyril says) to all our members, that is by being subjected to the natural processes of digestion and assimilation. The unusual order of the words “our blood and flesh” is not accidental, but answers to the process of assimilation, in which the digested food first nourishes the blood and then the blood nourishes the flesh.

The meaning is, as Otto says in his note, “that the divine food passes away into our bodies entire, so that nothing remains:” and Dr. Pusey seems to take the same view, in his note on the words, “from which (food) through transmutation our blood and flesh are nourished: “*i.e.* the material parts are changed into the substance of the human body¹.”

Thus then, according to Cyril, the Eucharistic Body and Blood of Christ are distributed to all our members; His Flesh and Blood pass by a change into our blood and flesh, and we thereby become “of the same body and the same blood with Him² :” and “this Bread does not pass into the belly, and is not cast out into the draught³,” but wastes away as the body itself wastes⁴ .

However much this view of the Sacramental mystery may differ from later theories, it was certainly held by many of the Greek Fathers. Irenæus, for example, in addition to those already mentioned, thus writes: “When therefore both the mingled cup and the created bread receive the Word of God, and the Eucharist becomes the Body of Christ, and from these the substance of our flesh increaseth and consisteth, how say they that the flesh is incapable of the gift of God which is eternal life, that flesh which is nourished from the Body and Blood of the Lord, and is already (ὑπάρχουσα) a member of Him?—even as the blessed Paul saith, that we are members of His Body, of His Flesh, and of His Bones⁵ .”

That this was also the teaching of Cyril’s contemporaries is clear from the famous passage of Gregory of Nyssa, in which this doctrine is fully developed. It will be sufficient to quote here the latter part of the passage, in which Gregory is speaking of the Wine. “Since then that God-containing flesh partook for its substance and support of this particular nourishment also, and since the God who was manifested infused Himself into perishable humanity for this purpose, viz. that by this communion with Deity mankind might at the same time be deified, for this end it is that, by dispensation of His grace, He disseminates Himself in every believer through that flesh whose substance comes from bread and wine, blending Himself with the bodies of believers, to secure that, by this union with the immortal, man too may be a sharer in incorruption. He gives these gifts by virtue of the benediction through which He transelements the natural quality of these visible things to that immortal thing⁶ .”

In another remarkable passage⁷ Cyril gives a further explanation of the effect of consecration: “In the New Testament there is heavenly Bread and a Cup of salvation, sanctifying soul and body: for as the Bread corresponds to the body, so also the Word (ὁ λόγος) is appropriate to the soul.” With this language of Cyril we may compare further what is said by Gregory of Nyssa in the context of the passage already quoted: “Just then, as

in the case of ourselves, as has been repeatedly said already, if a person sees bread he also in a kind of way looks on a human body, for by being within this it becomes this, so in that other case the Body into which God entered (τὸ θεοδόχον σῶμα), by partaking of the nourishment of bread was in a certain sense the same with it, since that nourishment, as we have said, is changed into the nature of the body: for that which is proper to all men is acknowledged also in the case of

¹*Real Presence*, p. 144. See note 8, below.

²*Mystag.* iv. §§ 1, 3.

³*Ib.* v. § 15.

⁴See Pusey, *R. P.* p. 151, note 3: “Dr. Gaisford, on my applying to him, kindly answered me,— ‘συναναλίσκεσθαι. It appears to me that this word can only be explained by a periphrasis. The writer appears to me to mean that the elements are not thrown off like ordinary food, but that they become blended or assimilated to the body, and waste away as the body wastes away.’ Mr. Field gives the same meaning.

⁵*V.* ii. § 3.

⁶*Oratio Catechetica*, c. xxxvii. The whole chapter should be read with the Rev. W. Moore’s notes in this Series, Vol. V. pp. 504–506.

⁷*Mystag.* iv. § 5.

xlvii

That Flesh, namely, that That Body too was maintained by bread; which Body also by the indwelling of God the Word was changed into the dignity of Godhead. Rightly then do we believe that now also the bread which is sanctified by the Word of God is changed into the Body of God the Word. For even that Body was once virtually (τῇ δυνάμει) bread, but has been sanctified by the inhabitation of the Word that tabernacled in the flesh.”

In this passage we have the full explanation of what Irenæus meant when he said that the elements “by receiving the Word of God become the Eucharist,” and what Cyril meant by saying that “as the Bread corresponds to the body, so also the Word is appropriate to the soul.” Their common doctrine is, that besides the Body and Blood of Christ, that is, His Humanity offered upon the Cross for our redemption, His Divine Nature, the Word is also present, and that it is by receiving the Divine Word that the Bread is made the Body of Christ. “The fathers,” says Touttée, “often play upon the ambiguity of the term, saying at one time that the Divine Word, at another that the word and oracles of God nourish our soul. Both are true. For the whole life-giving power of the Eucharist is derived from the Divine Word united with the flesh which He assumed: and the whole benefit (*fructus*) of Eucharistic eating consists in the union of our soul with the Word, by meditation on His mysteries and words, and conformation thereto¹.” *O si sic omnia!*

In this view the Bread and Wine are signs or figures of the natural Body of Christ crucified, but they are also much more, they are endued *by* the Divine Word, and through the operation of the Holy Ghost, with the life-giving power of the same Body and Blood of Christ,—a power which being imparted to the faithful recipient makes him to be “of the same body and the same blood with Christ,” thereby assuring him of the resurrection of the body to eternal life, and at the same time strengthening and refreshing the soul by its being united through faith with the Word, and being thus made “*partaker of the Divine nature*.”

This is not the language of the Western Church, whether Roman, Lutheran, or Anglican, but it is the language of the earliest Greek Fathers, and of Cyril, as is partly and reluctantly admitted by so cautious a writer as Dr. Waterland. After referring to the passage quoted above from Justin Martyr (*Apol.* i. 66) he proceeds: “There is another the like obscure hint in Irenæus, which may probably be best interpreted after the same way. He supposes the elements to become *Christ’s body* by receiving *the word* (Word). He throws two considerations into one, and does not distinguish so accurately as Origen afterwards did between the *symbolical* food and the *true food*.” The elements, Waterland adds, “are made the *representative* body of Christ; but they are at the same time,

to worthy receivers, made the means of their spiritual union with Christ Himself; which Irenæus points at in what he says of the *bread's* receiving the *Logos*, but should rather have said it of the *communicants* themselves, as receiving the *spiritual* presence of Christ, in the worthy *use* of the *sacred* symbols²."

Again, in c. vii., he says more explicitly of Irenæus, what is equally true of Cyril; "Least of all does he favour the *figurists* or *memorialists*; for his doctrine runs directly counter to them almost in every line: he asserts over and over, that Christ's *body* and *blood* are eaten and drunk in the Eucharist, and our bodies thereby *fed*, and not only so, but *insured* thereby for a happy *resurrection*: and the reason he gives is, that our *bodies* are thereby made or continued members of Christ's *body, flesh, and bones*."

From this view of Cyril's doctrine concerning the Sacramental elements we can easily understand in what sense he applies the terms "type" and "antitype" to the Eucharistic elements. "The Sacrament of the Holy Eucharist having two parts, an outward and an inward, and the outward part having been instituted by our Blessed Lord with a certain relation to the inward, and gifted with a certain significance of it, nothing is more natural than that the titles, type, antitype, symbol, figure, image, should be given to the outward part³."

¹*Mystag.* iv. note 4.

²*Review of the Doctrine of the Eucharist*, c. V.

³Pusey, *R. P.* p. 94.

Add to this that, according to Cyril's doctrine as already explained, the bread after the Invocation, without ceasing to be bread, not only signifies but also *is* the Body, and we see how natural it was for him to say in one passage that "His Body bore the figure of bread¹," in another that "in the figure of bread the Body is given²." The Body which "is given" cannot be an *absent* Body of our Lord, but must be that Sacramental Body, of which Cyril goes on to say in the same sentence that it is "distributed to our members." Thus the Bread broken is a type or figure of Christ's Body as crucified for us; and by virtue of its union with the Divine Word it becomes the life-giving Body, which makes the faithful recipient to be, in Cyril's words, "of the same body and same blood with Christ."

Another term applied by Cyril and other Greek Fathers to the sacramental elements is "antitype."

In *Mystag.* ii. § 6, where Baptism is called "the counterpart (ἀντίτυπον) of Christ's sufferings," the meaning is clearly explained by the context: for in § 5 the reality of Christ's sufferings is emphatically and repeatedly contrasted with the figurative representation of the same; and this figurative representation no less emphatically contrasted with the real and actual bestowal of the grace of salvation: ἐν εἰκόνι ἢ μίμησις, ἐν ἀληθείᾳ δὲ ἡ σωτηρία,....ἵνα τῇ μιμῇσι τῶν παθημάτων αὐτοῦ κοινωνήσαντες, ἀληθείᾳ τὴν σωτηρίαν κερδήσωμεν.

We have thus a clear distinction of (1) the 'res sacramenti,' Christ's Death and Resurrection, (2) the 'sacramentum' or 'sign,' the outward form of Baptism, and (3) the 'virtus sacramenti,' our real participation in the benefits of Christ's Passion, "a death unto sin, and a new birth unto righteousness." Thus, as Cyril adds at the end of the section, Baptism "has the fellowship by representation of Christ's true sufferings," it is the spiritual counterpart in us of that which was actual in Him.

In *Mystag.* iii. § i, speaking of the Chrism, Cyril says, "Now ye have been made Christs (Χριστοί) by receiving the antitype of the Holy Ghost, and all things have been wrought in you by imitation, because ye are images of Christ:" and again, "there was given to you an Unction, the antitype of that wherewith Christ was anointed, and this is the Holy Ghost."

Here again we have (1) the 'res sacramenti,' the anointing of Christ with the Holy Ghost at His Baptism, (2) the sacramental sign or figure, the anointing of the baptized, and (3) the spiritual benefit received in the gift of the Holy Ghost, for, as Cyril adds at the end of § 3, "while Thy body is anointed with the visible ointment, thy soul is sanctified by the Holy and Life-giving Spirit." In these passages we see a distinction between τύπος and

ἀντίτυπος. The former is simply the outward sign or figure; the latter includes with the sign the spiritual counterpart in us of the thing signified, the benefits of Christ's Passion in the one case, the gift of the Holy Ghost in the other.

It only remains to inquire whether there is the same distinction in the meaning of the words as applied to the Holy Eucharist.

In *Mystag.* v. § 20, Cyril informs us that during the Administration the words, "O taste and see that the Lord is good," were sung: and in reference to that passage he adds, "In tasting we are bidden to taste not bread and wine, but the antitypical Body and Blood of Christ." To taste "the antitypical Body" is therefore to taste "that the Lord is good," whence it clearly follows that "the antitypical Body" is not the mere sign or figure of Christ's own natural Body, but the sacramental and spiritual counterpart of it, by which those who faithfully receive it are so united to Him, that their *spirit, and soul, and body, are to be preserved entire without blame* at His coming³.

¹Cat. xiii. § 19: τὸ σῶμα αὐτοῦ κατὰ τὸ εὐαγγέλιον τύπον ἔφερεν ἄρτου.

²*Mystag.* iv. § 3: ἐν τύπῳ γὰρ ἄρτου δίδοται σοι τὸ σῶμα.

³[1 Thess. v. 23](#), quoted at the end of *Mystag.* v. § 23.

xlix

Chapter VIII.—Place of S. Cyril's Lectures.

We have seen in a passage already quoted¹ that at Milan S. Ambrose expounded the Creed to Catechumens in the Baptistry. But whatever may have been the custom in other places, it is certain from numerous passages in Cyril's Lectures that they were delivered in the great Basilica, or Church of the Resurrection, built by Constantine on the site of the Holy Sepulchre, and consecrated, as we have seen, with great splendour in the year 335². In a passage³ where Cyril is speaking of the descent of the Holy Ghost on the day of Pentecost, he says, "as we discourse on Christ and Golgotha here in Golgotha, so it were most fitting that we should also speak concerning the Holy Ghost in the Upper Church; yet since He who descended there jointly partakes of the glory of Him who was crucified here, we here speak concerning Him also who descended there." It appears from a passage in the Introductory Lecture⁴ that it was delivered in the Church itself before the whole congregation, after that portion of the daily Service to which Catechumens were usually admitted: "Dost thou behold this venerable constitution of the Church? Dost thou view her order and discipline, the reading of Scripture, the presence of the Ordained, the course of instruction?" The same custom was retained in Jerusalem in the time of John, Cyril's successor in the Bishopric, who in writing to Jerome says, "The custom with us is that we deliver the doctrine of the Holy Trinity publicly during forty days to those who are to be baptized⁵."

The Mystagogic Lectures were delivered not in the Church, but after the conclusion of the public Service "in the Holy Place of the Resurrection itself⁶," that is, in the small Chapel which contained the Holy Sepulchre, and to which the name "Anastasis" more properly belonged. Happily we are not required by the purpose of this work to enter into the disputed questions concerning the Holy Places. Whether the cave re-fashioned and adorned by Constantine was the actual sepulchre in which our Lord's body was laid, and whether the present Churches occupy the same site as the Basilica and Anastasis of Constantine, are matters still under discussion, and awaiting the result of further researches. What more properly concerns us is to collect the chief passages in which Cyril refers to these localities, and to try to give a fair representation of his testimony, comparing it with that of earlier or contemporary writers.

Next to Eusebius, and the Bordeaux Pilgrim who visited Jerusalem in 333, Cyril is the earliest and most important witness as to the site of Constantine's Churches.

In Cat. xiv. § 5, he says, "It was a garden where He was crucified. For though it has now been most highly adorned with royal gifts, yet formerly it was a garden, and the signs and the remnants of this remain." From this it

is evident that the traces of a garden close to the Church were still visible both to Cyril and his hearers. Twice again in § 11 he mentions the garden, which he had most probably himself seen in its former state, before the ground was cleared at the time of the recovery of the Holy Sepulchre in 326.

On this point it may be well to quote the words of Mr. Walter Besant, Honorary Secretary of the Palestine Exploration Fund, who, in an article on "The Holy Sepulchre" in the *Dictionary of Christian Antiquities*, writes as follows: "While the temple of Venus with its foundations was being cleared away, there might have been, and most probably was present, a Christian lad, native of Jerusalem, eleven years of age, watching the discovery, which did as much as the great luminous cross which appeared in the sky four (? twenty-four) years later to confirm the doubtful and strengthen the faithful, that of the rock containing the

¹Ch. II. § 2.

²See above, Ch. I. p. 2. Cf. Cat. iv. 10; x. 19; xiii. 4, 22, 39; xiv. 9, 14, 22, &c.

³Cat. xvi. § 4.

⁴Procat. § 4.

⁵Hieron. *Ep.* 61 (al. 38). The passage is quoted more fully below on p. xlv.

⁶Cat. xviii. § 33.

sacred tomb. It was Cyril, afterwards Bishop of Jerusalem. One must not forget that he is the third eye-witness who speaks of these things; that though he was a boy at the time of the discovery, he lived in Jerusalem, and must have watched, step by step, the progress of the great Basilica; that he was ordained before the completion and dedication of the buildings, and that many, if not all, of his lectures were delivered in the Church of the Anastasis itself."

That Cyril's testimony concerning the Holy Places was in full accordance with the general belief of his contemporaries is clear from the fact that he so frequently points to the traditional sites as bearing witness to the truth of the Crucifixion and Resurrection. He speaks of Golgotha in eight separate passages, sometimes as near to the Church in which he and his hearers are assembled¹, and sometimes as standing up above in their sight². In one place he asks, "Seest thou this spot of Golgotha?" and the hearers answer with a shout of approval³. In other passages he speaks as if the Church itself was *in* or rather *on* Golgotha⁴, the same Preposition (ἐν) being repeated when he mentions "Him who was crucified thereon."

In explanation of these different modes of speaking, the Benedictine Editor comments thus⁵: "The Church of the Resurrection was built on part of the hill Golgotha (*intra montem G.*): but the actual rock on which our Lord was crucified was not within the limits of the Church, yet not far off, namely about "a stone's throw," as the author of the *Jerusalem Itinerary* says. For the Church had been built on the site of the Sepulchre. Some think that the place of Crucifixion was included in the vast area which was enclosed with colonnades between the Sepulchre and the Basilica,...that Golgotha was midway between the Basilica of the Crucifixion, and the Anastasis or Sepulchre. But the area in question Constantine paved with stones, and it must therefore have been flat, as we learn from Eusebius⁶; Golgotha, on the contrary, stood up high⁷, and moreover shewed a cleft made there at Christ's death⁸, which would either have been a hindrance to the paving or covered up by it. In addition to this, from the doors of the Basilica there seems to have been a view of the Sacred Tomb⁹. This would have been obstructed if Golgotha had been between them."

The cleft in the rock of Golgotha is mentioned in a fragment of the defence made before Maximinus in 311 or 312 by Lucian the Martyr of Antioch¹⁰: "If yet you believe not, I will also offer you the testimony of the very spot on which the thing was done. The place itself in Jerusalem vouches for these facts, and the rock of Golgotha broken asunder under the weight of the Cross: that cave also, which when the gates of hell were burst, gave back the Body in newness of life." On this passage Dr. Routh remarks that Maundrell, *Journey from Aleppo to Jerusalem*, at

Easter, 1697, “shews that the rock had been rent not by any instrument, but by the force of an earthquake. Also it is related by Eusebius in his *Theophania*, a book now recovered, that there was one cave only in this cleft of the rock.”

According to Eusebius in the passages of the *Life of Constantine* already referred to, the Emperor first beautified the monument or sepulchre with rare columns, then paved with finely polished stone a large area open to the sky, and enclosed on three sides with long colonnades, and lastly erected the Church itself “at the side opposite to the cave, which was the Eastern side.”

¹xiii. § 4: οὗτος ὁ Γολγοθᾶς οὗ πλησίον νῦν πάντες πάρεσμεν.

²x. § 19: ὁ Γ. ὁ ἅγιος οὗτος ὁ ὑπερανεστηκῶς μαρτυρεῖ φαινόμενος. Cf. xiii. 19.

³xiii. § 23: Ὁρᾶς τοῦ Γολγοθᾶ τὸν τόπον; Ἐπιβοᾶς ἐπαίνῳ ὡς συντιθέμενος.

⁴iv. § 10: ὁ μακάριος οὗτος Γ. ἐν ᾧ νῦν διὰ τὸν ἐν αὐτῷ σταυρωθέντα συγκεκροτήμεθα. Cf. § 14: ὁ ἐν τῷ Γ. τούτῳ σταυρωθείς. xiii. § 22: xvi. 4: ἐν τῷ Γ τούτῳ λέγομεν.

⁵Cat. xiii. § 4, note 1.

⁶*Vit. Const.* iii. c. 35.

⁷Cat. x. § 19; xiii. § 39.

⁸xiii. § 39.

⁹Eus. *Vit. Const.* iii. c. 36.

¹⁰The fragment is added by Rufinus to his Latin translation of Eusebius, *Hist. Eccl.* ix. 6, and is also given in Routh, *Rel. Sacr.* iv. p. 6.

li

The following is the statement of the Bordeaux Pilgrim: “From thence (the Palace of David) as you go out of the wall of Sion walking towards the gate of Neapolis, on the right side below in the valley are walls where the house or Prætorium of Pontius Pilate was: here our Lord was tried before His Passion. On the left hand is the little hill (*monticulus*) of Golgotha, where the Lord was crucified. About a stone's throw from thence is a vault (*crypta*) wherein His body was laid, and rose again on the third day. There by command of the Emperor Constantine has now been built a Basilica, that is to say, a Church of wondrous beauty, having at the side reservoirs (*exceptoria*) from which water is raised, and a bath behind in which infants are washed (baptized).” Neapolis was the name given by Vespasian to the ancient city of Shechem, now Nâbulus: the “*porta Neapolitana*” therefore was in the North wall of Sion.

In reference to the passage quoted above, Mr. Aubrey Stewart says: “The narrative is clear and connected, and it is hardly possible, for any one who knows the ground, to read it without feeling that the Pilgrim from Bordeaux actually saw Constantine's buildings standing on the site now occupied by the Church of the Holy Sepulchre¹.”

From these earlier testimonies, compared with the several passages already quoted from Cyril, we may safely draw the following inferences, (1) The Anastasis properly so called, or Church of the Holy Sepulchre, in which the five Mystagogic Lectures were delivered, was built by Constantine over the cave which, according to the evidence then existing, was fully believed to be the Burial-place of our Lord. (2) The Great Basilica, called also the Church of the Holy Cross, in which the Catechetical Lectures were delivered, was erected on the East of the Anastasis, and separated from it by a large open area. (3) The hill of Golgotha (on which at a later period there was built a

third Church, called the Church of Golgotha, of Holy Calvary, or of Cranium) stood about a stone's throw on the North side of Constantine's two Churches, and about equidistant from them.

Chapter IX.—The Time and Arrangement of S. Cyril's Lectures.

§ 1. *The Year.* The incidental notes of time in the Catechetical Lectures are sufficient to determine with considerable probability the exact year in which they were delivered.

In Cat. xiv. 14, Cyril speaks in the Plural of the Emperors then reigning (οἱ νῦν βασιλεῖς) as having completed the building (ἐξεργάσαντο) and embellishment of the great Church of the Resurrection. This can only apply to the sons of Constantine, Constans and Constantius, and as Constans died early in 350, the Lectures must have been delivered before that year.

In Cat. xv. § 6, Cyril asks, "Is there at this time war between Persians and Romans, or no?" The time thus indicated was apparently that of the campaign which ended in the disastrous defeat of Constantius at Singara, 348, the battle being soon followed by a suspension of hostilities².

The Benedictine Editor tries to find another proof of the date of the Lectures in Cyril's description of the state of the Church in Cat. xv. §7: "If thou hear that Bishops advance against Bishops, and clergy against clergy, and laity against laity, even unto blood, be not troubled." Touttée refers this account to the fierce dissensions which followed the Synod of Sardica, where Athanasius and Marcellus were declared innocent and received into communion, while the Encyclical of the dissentient Bishops, who had withdrawn to Philippopolis, condemned them both. But it is now ascertained that the Synod of Sardica was held not in 347, as Touttée supposed, but in 344³: and Cyril's description may unhappily be applied to

¹*The Bordeaux Pilgrim*, Introd. p. ix.

²See Gibbon, c. xviii. vol. ii. p. 370.

³*Dict. Chr. Biogr.* "Athanasius," p. 190, note; Hefele, *Councils*, §§ 58, 66, 67.

the state of the Church at almost any time from the Council of Tyre, by which Athanasius had been deposed in 335, until long after any date which can possibly be assigned to Cyril's Lectures.

There is a much more definite note of time in Cat. vi. § 20, where speaking of Manes Cyril says: "The delusion began full seventy years ago." If we may assume that the outbreak of this heresy is to be dated from the famous disputation between Archelaus and Manes in 277¹, it follows that Cyril must have made this statement in 347 or 348. And further, if Dr. Routh² is correct in fixing the date of the Disputation between July and December 277, the Lent in which the Lectures were delivered must have been, as Touttée decides, that of 348, not of 347, as Tillemont had supposed.

§ 2. *The days.* It is expressly stated by Sozomen³ that "the interval called Quadragesima" was made to consist of six weeks in Palestine, "whereas it comprised seven weeks in Constantinople and the neighbouring provinces."

It is certain the Catechetical Lectures i.–xviii. were all delivered in these six weeks, being preceded by the Procatechesis, which was addressed to the candidates before the whole congregation at the public Service on Sunday (§ 4). In the same context Cyril says, "Thou hast forty days for repentance," and again in Cat i. § 5, "Hast thou not forty days to be free for thine own soul's sake?" It thus appears probable that the first of the eighteen (Catechetical Lectures was delivered on the Monday of the first week of the Fast, the forty days being completed on the night preceding the Great Sabbath, that is to say, the night of Good Friday, when the fast was brought to an end at a late hour.

With regard to the date of Cat. iv., which contains a brief preliminary statement of all the articles of the Creed, we

may obtain some evidence from an incident recorded in a letter of Jerome⁴ to Pammachius. John, who had then succeeded Cyril as Bishop of Jerusalem, had on a certain occasion discoursed on the Creed and all the doctrines of the Church in the presence of Epiphanius and the whole congregation. Jerome, being ignorant of the peculiar custom of the Church of Jerusalem, rebukes the supposed presumption of the Bishop, "that a man deficient in eloquence should in one discourse in Church discuss all the doctrines concerning the Trinity, the Incarnation, the Crucifixion, the descent into hell, the nature of angels, the state of departed souls, the Resurrection of Christ, and of ourselves, and other subjects." The rebuke calls out a statement from John: "The custom among us is that for forty days we publicly deliver the doctrine of the Holy and Adorable Trinity to those who are to be baptized." This being the custom at Jerusalem in Cyril's time, we may conjecture that Cat. iv., which corresponds closely to the description of John's discourse, was delivered, like that, on a Sunday before the whole congregation: and this is in fact suggested by Cyril's own words in § 3: "Let those here present, whose habit of mind is mature, and who *have their senses already exercised to discern good and evil*, endure patiently to listen to things fitted rather for children." That this could not have been later than the Sunday following that on which the Procatechesis was delivered, is shewn by the mention in the same section of "the long interval of the days of all this holy Quadragesima," an expression which could not well have been used later than the second Sunday in Lent.

In Cat. iv. § 32, Cyril speaks of having discoursed on Baptism "the day before yesterday," that is, on the Friday.

In Cat. v. we have first a discourse on the nature of faith, and then towards the end, between § 12 and § 13, the actual words of the Creed are for the first time recited by Cyril to the candidates alone. In the next four Lectures there are no marks of time, except that

¹Cat. vi. § 27.

²*Rel. Sac.* v. p. 12.

³*Hist. Eccles.* vii. c. 19.

⁴*Ep.* 61 (al. 38). Cf. Ben. Ed. *Praeloq. ad* Cat. iv. pp. 49, 50.

vi., vii., viii., were delivered on successive days, as is proved by the word "yesterday" (τῇ χθὲς ἡμέρᾳ) in vii. § 1, and viii. § 1. It thus appears probable that the five Lectures, v.–ix., belong to the five days, Monday to Friday inclusive, of the second or third week.

In Cat. x. § 14 Cyril reminds his hearers that he had preached on the words *after the order of Melchizedek* at the public Service on the Lord's day. As he does not here employ his usual phrase "yesterday," we may infer that Cat. x. was delivered not earlier than the Tuesday following the 4th Sunday in Lent, the Epistle for that Sunday in the Eastern Church being [Heb. vi. 13-20](#), which ends with the words on which Cyril had preached. The next two Lectures followed Cat. x. immediately on successive days, Wednesday and Thursday, the word "yesterday" recurring in xi. § 1, and xii. § 4.

Cat. xiii., which is occupied with the Crucifixion and Burial, seems to have followed them immediately on the Friday: it certainly came a few days only before Cat. xiv. § 1. For speaking there of the preceding Lecture, Cyril says, "I know the sorrow of Christ's friends in these past days; because, as our discourse stopped short at the Death and the Burial, and did not tell the good tidings of the Resurrection, your mind was in suspense to hear what you were longing for." Now we know that Cat. xiv. was delivered on the Monday after Passion Sunday: for the Epistle for that 5th Sunday in Lent was [Heb. vi. 11-14](#), referring to the Ascension¹: and in § 24 Cyril says, "The grace of God so ordered it, that thou heardest most fully concerning it, so far as our weakness allowed, yesterday on the Lord's day, since by the providence of divine grace the course of the Readings (ἀναγνώσμάτων) in Church included the account of our Saviour's going up into the heavens."

In Cat. xv. there is no note of time to determine on what day it was spoken; but in § 33 Cyril speaks as if his course of teaching was to be interrupted for a little while: "If the grace of God should permit us, the remaining Articles also of the Faith shall be in good time (κατὰ καιρόν) declared to you." We may therefore assign Cat. xv. to the early

part of Passion week, and the three remaining Catechetical Lectures to the week before Easter. This arrangement seems to be confirmed by Cat. xvii. 34, where Cyril speaks of the two Lectures on the Holy Spirit, xvi. and xvii., as “these present Lectures,” distinguishing them from “our previous discourses.” In the same section he refers to “the fewness of the days,” and in § 20 speaks of “the holy festival of the Passover” as being close at hand. We may therefore probably assign xvi. and xvii. to two consecutive days in the earlier part of the week before Easter.

Cat. xviii. contains many indications from which we may conclude with certainty that it was delivered either on the night of Good Friday, or in the early hours of the morning of the “Great Sabbath.” Thus in § 17 he speaks of “the weariness caused by the prolongation (ὑπερθέσεως) of the fast of the Preparation (Friday), and the watching.” In § 21 he calls upon the Candidates to recite the Creed, which he had dictated to them, and which they would be required to repeat more publicly immediately before their Baptism, as we learn from § 32: “Concerning the holy Apostolic Faith which has been delivered to you to profess (εἰς ἐπαγγελίαν), we have spoken through the grace of the Lord as many Lectures as was possible in these past days of Lent.... But now the holy day of the Passover is at hand, and ye, beloved in Christ, are to be enlightened *by the washing of regeneration*. Ye shall therefore again be taught what is requisite if God so will; with how great devotion and order you must enter in when summoned, for what purpose each of the holy mysteries of Baptism is performed, and with what reverence and order you must go from Baptism to the holy altar of God, and enjoy its spiritual and heavenly mysteries.” The additional instructions here promised were to be given on the same day as the last Lecture, Cat. xviii, that is on Easter Eve immediately before Baptism. For it was forbidden to reveal the mysteries of Baptism, Chrism, and the

¹*Dict. Chr. Antiq.* “Lectionary,” p. 958 b.

Holy Eucharist to the uninitiated, and yet it was necessary that the Candidates should not come wholly unprepared to perform what would be required of them. The full explanation of the various ceremonies and of the doctrines implied in them was reserved for the Mystagogic Lectures, which were to be delivered on Easter Monday and the four following days, after the public Service, not in the great Basilica, but in the Holy Sepulchre itself.

§ 3. *Arrangement.* The Lectures of S. Cyril have a peculiar value as being the first and only complete example of the course of instruction given in the early centuries to Candidates seeking admission to the full privileges of the Christian Church. “The Great Catechetical Oration” of Gregory of Nyssa is addressed not to the learner but to the teacher, in accordance with the opening statement of the Prologue, that “The presiding ministers of *the mystery of godliness* have need of a system in their instructions, in order that the Church may be replenished by the accession of such as should be saved, through the teaching of the word of Faith being brought home to the hearing of unbelievers.” As an instruction to the Catechist how he should refute the opponents of Christianity, it is an apologetic work rather than a Catechism. S. Augustine’s treatise *De catechizandis rudibus* is also addressed to the teacher, being an answer to Deogratias, a Deacon of Carthage, who on being appointed Catechist had written to Augustine for advice as to the best method of discharging the office. S. Augustine’s Sermons *De traditione Symboli*, and *De redditione Symboli*, are not a connected series, but single addresses to Catechumens consisting of brief comments on a few chief articles of the Creed. Cyril’s Lectures thus remain unique in character.

After the Procatechesis, which is simply an introductory exhortation to the newly admitted Candidates, he devotes three Lectures to the need of a sincere purpose of mind, the efficacy of repentance, and the general nature and importance of Baptism. The fourth Lecture gives “a short summary of necessary doctrines,” stating with admirable clearness and brevity ten chief points of the Faith, and the arguments on each point, which are to be developed in the remaining Catechetical Lectures v.–xviii. He thus traverses the whole ground of Theology as expressed in the Creed of Jerusalem, of which the exact language is given in the titles of the successive Lectures. These instructions to the ‘Illuminandi’ (φωτιζομένων) were followed on Easter-day by the administration of Baptism, Chrism, and Holy Communion: and on the following days of Easter-week the ceremonies and doctrines proper to each of these Sacraments were explained in the five Lectures on the Mysteries (Μυσταγωγίαι) to the newly-baptized (πρὸς τοὺς Νεοφωτίστους). These Mystagogic Lectures thus form a most important record of the Sacramental Rites and Doctrines of the Eastern Church in the fourth Century, the most critical period of Ecclesiastical History.

Chapter X.—The Creed of Jerusalem: Doctrine of the Holy

Trinity.

§ 1. *The Creed.* The ancient Creed which was used by the Church of Jerusalem in the middle of the fourth Century, and which Cyril expounded in his Catechetical Lectures, was recited by him to the Catechumens at the end of the fifth Lecture, to be committed to memory, but not to be written out on paper (§ 12). Accordingly it is not found in any of the MSS., but instead of it the Nicene Creed with the Anathema is there inserted in Codd. Roe, Casaub. This could only have been added after Cyril's time, when the motives for secrecy had ceased.

The Creed which Cyril really taught and expounded may be gathered from various passages in the Lectures themselves, and especially from the Titles prefixed to them.

With the Creed of Jerusalem thus ascertained, it will be instructive to compare the Nicene formula, and for this purpose we print them in parallel columns.

iv

CREED OF S. CYRIL OF JERUSALEM.

CREED OF NICÆA.

FROM S. ATHANASIUS, DE DECRETIS FIDEI
NICÆNÆ.

Πιστεύομεν εἰς ἓνα Θεόν¹,
Πατέρα² Παντοκράτορα³,
Ποιητὴν οὐρανοῦ καὶ γῆς
Ὅρατῶν τε πάντων καὶ ἀοράτων⁴.
Καὶ εἰς ἓνα Κύριον Ἰησοῦν Χριστόν⁵,
τὸν Ψῖδὸν τοῦ Θεοῦ
τὸν Μονογενῆ,
τὸν ἐκ τοῦ Πατρὸς γεννηθέντα,
Θεὸν ἀληθινὸν
πρὸ πάντων τῶν αἰώνων,
δι' οὗ τὰ πάντα ἐγένετο⁶,
τὸν σαρκωθέντα καὶ ἐνανθρωπήσαντα⁷,
σταυρωθέντα καὶ ταφέντα⁸,
καὶ ἀναστάντα ἐκ νεκρῶν τῇ τρίτῃ ἡμέρᾳ,

Πιστεύομεν εἰς ἓνα Θεόν,
Πατέρα παντοκράτορα,
πάντων ὁρατῶν τε
καὶ ἀοράτων ποιήτην,
καὶ εἰς ἓνα Κύριον Ἰησοῦν Χριστόν,
τὸν Ψῖδὸν τοῦ Θεοῦ,
γεννηθέντα ἐκ τοῦ Πατρὸς μονογενῆ,
τουτέστιν ἐκ τῆς οὐσίας τοῦ Πατρὸς,
Θεὸν ἐκ Θεοῦ, φῶς ἐκ φῶτος. Θεὸν
ἀληθινὸν ἐκ Θεοῦ ἀληθινοῦ,
γεννηθέντα οὐ τοιηθέντα, ὁμοούσιον τῷ
Πατρί,
δι' οὗ τὰ πάντα ἐγένετο,
τά τε ἐν τῷ οὐρανῷ καὶ τὰ ἐπὶ τῆς γῆς,
τὸν δι' ἡμᾶς τοὺς ἀνθρώπους καὶ διὰ τὴν

καὶ ἀνελθόντα εἰς τοὺς οὐρανούς,
καὶ καθίσαντα ἐκ δεξιῶν τοῦ Πατρὸς⁹,
καὶ πάλιν ἐρχόμενον ἐν δόξῃ
κρῖναι ζῶντας καὶ νεκρούς,
οὗ τῆς βασιλείας οὐκ ἔσται τέλος¹⁰.
Καὶ εἰς ἓν ἅγιον Πνεῦμα
τὸν Παράκλητον,
τὸ λαλῆσαν ἐν τοῖς προφήταις¹¹.
καὶ εἰς ἓν βάπτισμα μετανοίας εἰς ἄφεσιν
ἁμαρτιῶν¹²,
καὶ εἰς μίαν ἁγίαν καθολικὴν ἐκκλησίαν,
καὶ εἰς σαρκὸς ἀνάστασιν,
καὶ εἰς ζωὴν αἰώνιον¹³.

ἡμετέραν σωτηρίαν¹⁴
κατελθόντα καὶ σαρκωθέντα,
ἐνανθρωπήσαντα, παθόντα,
καὶ ἀναστάντα τῇ τρίτῃ ἡμέρᾳ,
ἀνελθόντα εἰς οὐρανούς,
καὶ ἐρχόμενον
κρῖναι ζῶντας καὶ νεκρούς,
καὶ εἰς τὸ ἅγιον Πνεῦμα.

Τοὺς δὲ λέγοντας· ἦν ποτε ὅτε οὐκ ἦν, καὶ
τρὶν γεννηθῆναι οὐκ ἦν, καὶ ὅτι ἐξ οὐκ
ὄντων ἐγένετο, ἢ ἐξ ἑτέρας ὑποστάσεως ἢ
οὐσίας φάσκοντας εἶναι ἢ κτιστὸν ἢ
τρεπτὸν ἢ ἀλλοιωτὸν τὸν Ψῖόν τοῦ Θεοῦ.
ἀναθεματίζει ἡ καθολικὴ ἐκκλησία.

§ 2. *Doctrine of the Holy Trinity.* "The doctrinal position of S. Cyril is admirably described, and his orthodoxy vindicated by Cardinal Newman in the following passage of his Preface to the Lectures in the Library of the Fathers. "There is something very remarkable and even startling to the reader of S. Cyril, to find in a divine of his school such a perfect agreement, for instance as regards the doctrine of the Trinity, with those Fathers who in his age were more famous as champions of it. Here is a writer, separated by whatsoever cause from what, speaking historically, may be called the Athanasian School, suspicious of its adherents, and suspected by them; yet he, when he comes to explain himself, expresses precisely the same doctrine as that of Athanasius or Gregory, while he merely abstains from the particular theological term in which the latter Fathers agreeably to the Nicene Council conveyed it. Can we have a clearer proof that the difference of opinion between them was not one of ecclesiastical and traditionary doctrine, but of practical judgment? that the Fathers at Nicæa wisely considered that, under the circumstances, the word in question was the only symbol which would secure the Church against the insidious heresy which was assailing it, while S. Cyril, with Eusebius of Cæsarea, Meletius and others shrank from it, at least for a while,

¹Cat. vi. tit.

²vii. tit.; § 4.

³viii. tit.

⁴ix. tit.; § 4.

⁵x. tit.; vii. 4.

⁶xi. tit.; § 21.

⁷xii. tit.

⁸xiii. tit.

⁹xiv. tit., cf. § 27; xv. 3.

¹⁰xv. tit.; § 2.

¹¹xvi. tit.; xviii. 3.

¹²xviii. 22.

¹³xviii. tit.; § 22.

¹⁴Cyril, Cat. iv. 9; xii. 3; *Mystag.* ii. 7.

 lvi

as if an addition to the Creed, or a word already taken into the service of an opposite heresy, and likely to introduce into the Church heretical notions? Their judgment, which was erroneous, was their own; their faith was not theirs only, but shared with them by the whole Christian world¹ .”

In regard to the doctrine of the Trinity in general the two great heresies which distracted the Church in S. Cyril's day were Sabellianism and Arianism, the one “confounding the Persons,” the other “dividing the substance” of the indivisible Unity of the Godhead. Both these opposite errors Cyril condemns with equal energy: “Do thou neither separate the Son from the Father, nor by making a confusion believe in a Son-Fatherhood² .” Again he says: “Our hope is in Father, and Son, and Holy Ghost. We preach not three Gods: let the Marcionites be silenced; but with the Holy Ghost through One Son we preach One God. The Faith is indivisible; the worship inseparable. We neither separate the Holy Trinity, like some (that is the Arians); nor do we, as Sabellius, work confusion³ .” “He says not, I am the Father, but *the Father is in Me, and I am in the Father*. And again He said not, *I and the Father am one*, but, *I and the Father are One*, that we should neither separate them, nor make a confusion of Son-Father⁴ .”

In the sequel of this last passage Cyril proceeds to argue that this unity of the Father and the Son lies in their Nature, “since God begat God,” in their Kingdom⁵ , in their Will⁶ , and in their joint Creation⁷ , thus at each step rejecting some prominent heretical tenet.

The question, however, of Cyril's orthodoxy depends especially upon his supposed opposition to the Creed of Nicæa, of which no evidence is alleged except his attendance at the Council of Seleucia, and the absence from his Lectures of the word *ὁμοούσιον*.

The purpose of Cyril's attendance at Seleucia was to appeal against his deposition by Acacius, and there is apparently no evidence of his having taken part in the doctrinal discussions, or signed the Creed of Antioch⁸ . What is certain is that Cyril's bitterest enemies who refused to sit with him in the Council were Acacius and his Arian allies, who expressly rejected both *ὁμοούσιος* and *ὁμοιούσιος* and “altogether denied the Nicene formula and censured the Council, while the others, who were the majority, accepted the whole proceedings of the Council, except that they complained of the word ‘Co-essential,’ as obscure, and so open to suspicion⁹ .” It thus appears that Cyril's friends at Seleucia were partly those who approved the word “Co-essential,” and partly those of whom Athanasius speaks as “brothers, who mean what we mean, and dispute only about the word¹⁰ .” It needed in fact the profound insight of an Athanasius to foresee that in the end that word must triumph over all opposition, and be accepted by the Universal Church as the one true safeguard of the Christian Faith. Meanwhile it was the standard round which debate, and strife, and hatred, and persecution, were to rage for fifty years with unexampled fury.

Was Cyril to be blamed, ought he not rather to be commended, for not introducing such a war-cry into the exposition of an ancient Creed, in which it had no place, the Creed of his own Church, the Mother of all the Churches, whose Faith he as a youthful Presbyterian was commissioned to teach to the young Candidates for Baptism?

But if we compare his doctrine with that of the Nicene formula, we shall find that, as Dr. Newman says, "His own writings are most exactly orthodox, though he does not in the Catechetical Lectures use the word ὁμοούσιον¹¹."

The first point to be noticed in the comparison is the use of the title "Son of God."

¹*Preface*, p. ix.

²Cat. iv. § 8.

³Cat. xvi. § 4. See the notes on this and the preceding passage.

⁴Cat. xi. § 16.

⁵Cat. xv. § 27, note 3.

⁶Athan. *Contra Arian*, Or. ii. § 31, 1: "For the Word of God is Framer and Maker, and He is the Father's Will. Cf. Or. iii. § 63 fin.

⁷Ib. Or. iii. § 11, 3: "Such then being the Son, therefore when the Son works, the Father is the Worker."

⁸There is, I believe, no extant list of signatures: "Whether the few Homoürians and Hilary were among those who signed is not said" (Hefele, *Councils*, II. p. 264.)

⁹Athan. *De Synod.* c. 12.

¹⁰Ib. c. 41.

¹¹*Preface*, p. 14.

lvii

For this Eusebius in his Creed had substituted "Word of God." Athanasius explains the significance of the change: "Uniting the two titles, Scripture speaks of 'Son' in order to herald the natural and true offspring of His essence (οὐσίᾱς); and on the other hand that none may think of the offspring as human, in again indicating His essence it calls Him Word, and Wisdom, and Radiance, for from this we infer that the generation was impassible (ἀπαθές), and eternal, and becoming to God¹."

Cyril is here in full accord with Athanasius: in his Creed he found "Son of God," and in his exposition he states that the Father is "by nature and in truth Father of One only, the Only-begotten Son²:" "One they are because of the dignity pertaining to the Godhead, since God begat God³:" "The Son then is VERY GOD, having the Father in Himself, not changed into the Father⁴." When he says that the Son is in all things like (ὁμοίος ἐν παντί) to Him who begat Him; begotten Life of Life, and Light of Light, Power of Power, God of God, and the characteristics of the Godhead are unchangeable (ἀπαράλλακτοι) in the Son⁵," he is using in all good faith the very words of the orthodox Bishops at Nicæa, "ὁμοίον τε καὶ ἀπαράλλακτον αὐτὸν κατὰ πάντα τῷ Πατρὶ⁶."

The further significance which Athanasius ascribes to the title "Logos," is also expressed fully and repeatedly by Cyril: "Whenever thou hearest of God begetting, sink not down in thought to bodily things, nor think of a corruptible generation, lest thou be guilty of impiety⁷."

The “passionless generation,” to which so much importance was attached at Nicæa and by Athanasius, is also asserted by Cyril when he says that God “became a Father not by passion (οὐ πάθει Πατὴρ γενόμενος)⁸.” The eternal generation is most emphatically declared again and again: the Son, he says, “began not His existence in time, but was before all ages eternally and incomprehensibly begotten of the Father; the Wisdom, and the Power of God, and His Righteousness personally subsisting⁹.” “Throughout His being (ἐξ οὐπερ ἦν), a being by eternal generation, He holds His royal dignity, and shares His Father’s seat¹⁰.” Believe that of One God there is One Only-begotten Son, who is before all ages God the Word; not the uttered word diffused into the air, nor to be likened to impersonal words; but the Word, the Son, Maker of all who partake of reason, the Word who heareth the father, and Himself speaketh¹¹.”

The importance of such language is better understood when we remember that Marcellus, “another head of the dragon lately sprung up in Galatia¹²,” entirely rejected the word “Begotten,” as implying a beginning, and “contradicting the eternity of the Logos, so distinctly proclaimed by S. John.” An eternal generation, as stated by Athanasius and others, was to him unimaginable. The Logos in His pre-existence was unbegotten, and could not be called Son, but only the Logos invested with human nature was Son of God and begotten¹³.” These heretical opinions of Marcellus had been condemned in several Councils within a few years preceding Cyril’s Lectures.

The next supposed proof of Cyril’s opposition to the Nicene doctrine is that he has not adopted in his Lectures the phrases “of the essence (οὐσίας) of the Father,” and “of one essence (ὁμοούσιον) with the Father.” This omission is the chief ground of the reproaches cast upon the memory of Cyril by the writers of Ecclesiastical History; for this he was described by Jerome as an Arian, and by Rufinus as a waverer, while his formal acceptance of the terms used at Nicæa is called by Socrates and Sozomen an act of repentance. By others he was denounced as Ἀρειανόφρων because he had addressed his letter to Constantius as “the most religious king,” and never used the word ὁμοούσιον in his Lectures.

¹Contra Arianos, Or. i. 28.

²Cat. vii. § 5.

³Ib. xi. § 16.

⁴Ib. § 17.

⁵Ib. § 18.

⁶Athan. *De Decretis*, c. 20.

⁷Cat. xi. § 7.

⁸Ib. vii. 5: see note there.

⁹Ib. iv. 7.

¹⁰Ib.

¹¹Ib. iv. § 8.

¹²Ib. xv. § 27.

¹³Zahn, *Marcellus of Ancyra*, as quoted by Hefele, *Councils*, II. p. 31, slightly abridged. See also Hefele, p. 186.

We shall be better able to estimate the justice of these reproaches, if we consider first the history of these words οὐσία and ὁμοούσιος, and the reasons which Cyril may have had for not employing them in the instruction of youthful Candidates for Baptism.

It is strange to find that seven hundred years before the great controversy at Nicæa on the introduction of the word Οὐσία into the Creed, it had been the war-cry of almost as fierce a conflict between rival schools of philosophy.

“There appears,” says Plato in the person of the Eleatic stranger, “to be a sort of war of the giants going on between them because of the dispute concerning οὐσία. Some of them are dragging all things down from heaven and from the invisible to earth, grasping rocks and oaks in their hands; for of all such things they lay hold, in obstinately maintaining that what can be touched and handled alone has being (εἶναι), because they define ‘being’ and ‘body’ as one; and if any one else says that what is not a body has being, they altogether despise him, and will hear of nothing but body....Therefore their opponents cautiously defend themselves from above out of some invisible world, mightily contending that certain intelligible and incorporeal ideas are the true essence (οὐσίαν)¹.”

It is apparently to this passage of Plato that Aristotle refers in describing the ambiguity of the word οὐσία²: “Now Οὐσία seems to belong most manifestly to bodies: wherefore animals and plants and their parts we say are οὐσίαι, also natural bodies as fire and water and earth and all such things, and all either parts of these, or products either of parts or the whole, as the heaven and its parts, stars, moon, and sun. But whether these are the only οὐσίαι or there are others also, or none of these but others of a different kind, is a matter for inquiry. Some think that the boundaries of bodies, as a surface, and a line and a point and a unit (μονάς), are οὐσίαι, even more so than body and solid. Further, one class of persons thinks that besides things sensible there is no οὐσία, and another that there are many things, and these more enduring (ἄδια), as Plato thinks that the ideas (εἶδη) and the mathematical elements are two kinds of οὐσία, and that the οὐσία of sensible bodies is a third.”

In proceeding to define the term, Aristotle says that οὐσία is used in four senses if not more: the essential nature (τὸ τί ἦν εἶναι), the universal (τὸ καθόλον) the genus, and a fourth the subject (τὸ ὑποκείμενον). Under, this fourth sense he proceeds to discuss the application of the term οὐσία to the matter, the form, and the resulting whole. Without going further we may see that the use of the word in philosophy was full of difficulty and ambiguity.

The ambiguity is thus expressed by Mr. Robertson³: “We may look at a concrete term as denoting either this or that individual simply (τόδε τι), or as expressing its nature, and so as *common* to more individuals than one. Now properly (πρώτως) οὐσία is only appropriate to the former purpose. But it may be employed in a secondary sense to designate the latter, in this sense species and genera are δεύτεραι οὐσίαι, the wider class being less truly οὐσίαι than the former.” Perhaps the earliest use of οὐσία in Christian writings is in Justin M.⁴, where he describes the Logos as “having been begotten from the Father, by His power and will, but not by abscission (ἀποτομήν), as if the οὐσία of the Father were divided, as all other things when divided and cut are no longer the same as before.” His example was fire, from which other fires are kindled, while it remains undiminished and unchanged. According to Dr. Newman⁵, οὐσία here means “substance, or being.”

In Clement of Alexandria⁶, οὐσία means a “nature” common to many, for he speaks of the Gnostic Demiurge as creating an irrational soul ὁμοούσιον with the soul of the beasts;” and again as implanting in man “something co-essential (ὁμοούσιον) with himself, inasmuch as he is invisible and incorporeal; his essence (οὐσίαν) he called “the breath of life,” but the thing formed (μορφωθέν) became “a living soul,” which in the prophetic Scriptures he

¹Plato, *Sophist*. § 246. “The passage is quoted by Theodoret, *Græcarum affectionem Curatio*, ii. p. 732.” (Heindorf.)

²*Metaph.* vi. § 2.

³Athanasius, *Proleg.* p. xxxi., in this Series.

⁴*Tryph.* c. 128*.

⁵*Arians*, p. 186.

⁶*Fragm.* § 50, Sylb. 341.

lix

confesses himself to be. Again in §42 of the same Fragment, according to the Valentinians, “the body of Jesus is co-essential (ὁμοούσιον) with the Church.”

So Hippolytus¹ speaks of the Son Incarnate as being “at one and the same time Infinite God and finite Man, having the nature (οὐσίαν) of each in perfection:” and again, “There has been effected a certain inexpressible and irrefragable union of the two (the Godhead and the Manhood) into one subsistence (ὑπόστασιν).”

In Origen we find the two words οὐσία (essence, or substance) and ὑπόστασις (individual subsistence) accurately distinguished. Quoting the description of Wisdom, as being the breath (ἀτμίς) of the power of God, and pure effluence (ἀπόρροια) from the glory of the Almighty, and radiance (ἀπαύγασμα) of the Eternal Light², he says that “Wisdom proceeding from Him is generated of the very substance of God,” and adds that “these comparisons most manifestly shew that there is community of substance between Father and Son. For an effluence appears to be ὁμοούσιος, that is, of one substance with that body from which it is an effluence or vapour.”

On the other hand he writes, “We worship the Father of the Truth, and the Son who is the Truth, being in subsistence (τῇ ὑποστάσει) two³.” On this passage Bishop Bull remarks: “The words ὑπόστασις and οὐσία in ancient times were variously used, at least by the Christians. That is to say, sometimes ὑπόστασις was taken by them for what we call οὐσία, and *vice versa*, οὐσία for what we call ὑπόστασις: sometimes the ancients even before the Council of Nicæa used ὑπόστασις for what we now call ‘person’ or ‘subsistence’⁴.” This Bishop Bull presently explains again as “an individual thing subsisting by itself, which in rational beings is the same as *person*.”

For examples of these interchanges of meaning, we may notice that the Synod of Antioch (A.D. 269), in the Epistle addressed to Paul of Samosata before his deposition, speaking of the unity of Christ’s *Person*, says that “He is one and the same in His οὐσία⁵.” On this passage Routh remarks that “The words οὐσία and φύσις are sometimes employed by the ancients for a personal subsistence (*persona subsistente*), as is plainly testified by Photius.”

In the earlier part⁶ of the same Epistle the Son is described as “being before all ages, not in foreknowledge, but in essence and subsistence (ἐν οὐσίᾳ καὶ ὑποστάσει).”

The confusion arising from the uncertainty in the use of these two words is well illustrated in the account which Athanasius⁷ himself gives of this same Synod of Antioch: “They who deposed the Samosatene, took Co-essential (ὁμοούσιος) in a bodily sense, because Paul had attempted sophistry and said, ‘Unless Christ has of man become God, it follows that He is Co-essential with the Father; and if so, of necessity there are three essences (οὐσίαι), one the previous essence, and the other two from it;’ and therefore guarding against this they said with good reason, that Christ was not Co-essential (ὁμοούσιον).” Athanasius then explains on what grounds the Bishops at Nicæa “reasonably asserted on their part, that the Son was Co-essential.” Athanasius himself states that, in giving this explanation of the rejection of οὐσιον by the Bishops who condemned the Samosatene, he had not their Epistle before him⁸; and his statement, that Paul used the term not to express his own view, but to refute that of the Bishops, is thought to be opposed to what Hilary says⁹, “Male ὁμοούσιον Samosatenus confessus est: sed numquid melius Ariani negaverunt?”

That the statement of Athanasius himself is not free from difficulty is clear from the way in which so great a Theologian as Bishop Hefele endeavours to explain it: “Athanasius says that Paul argued in this way: If Christ is Ὁμοούσιος with the Father, then three subsistences (οὐσίαι) must be admitted—one first substance (the Father), and two more recent (the Son and

¹*Adv. Beron. et Hel. Fragm. i.*

²*Wisdom of Solomon vii. 25*, quoted by Origen, *Fragm. in Epist. ad Hebræos*, Lommatzsch, V. p. 300.

³*Contra Celsum*, viii. p. 386.

⁴*Def. Fid. Nic. II. c. 9, § 11.*

⁵Routh, *Rel. Sacr.*, III. p. 299.

⁶*Ib.* p. 290.

⁷*De Synodis*, c. 45, p. 474, in this Series.

⁸*Ib.* c. 43.

⁹*Liber de Synodis*, 513.

 ix

the Spirit); that is to say, that the Divine Substance is separated into three parts¹. The logical subtlety of Paul was better understood by Basil the Great²: “For in truth they who met together about Paul of Samosata found fault with the phrase, as not being distinct; for they said that the word ὁμοούσιος gave the idea of an οὐσία and of those derived from it, so that the title ὁμοούσιον assigned the οὐσία separately to the subjects to which it was distributed: and this notion has some reason in the case of copper and the coins made from it; but in the case of God the Father, and God the Son, there is no substance conceived to be antecedent and superior to both: for to say and to think this surpasses all bounds of impiety.”

The confusion arising from the uncertainty in the use of these words had been the cause of strife throughout the Christian Church for more than twenty years before the date of Cyril's Lectures; and though it was declared at the Council of Alexandria (362) to be but a controversy about words³, it had long been and long afterwards continued to be a fruitful cause of dissension between men who, when forced to explain their meaning, were found to be in substantial agreement. That Cyril abstained from introducing into his elementary teaching terms so provocative of dangerous controversy, is a reason for commendation, not for censure. But if it is alleged that he denied or doubted or failed to assert the essential Godhead of the Son, the suspicion is unfounded and easily refuted. To the many passages already quoted concerning the eternal generation of the Son, it will be enough to add one single sentence which ought to dispel all doubt of his orthodoxy. “The Only-begotten Son, together with the Holy Ghost, is partaker of the Godhead of the Father (τῆς θεότητος τῆς Πατρικῆς κοινωνός).” The word chosen by Cyril to express the Divine Essence (θεότης) common to the three Persons of the Godhead is at least as appropriate as οὐσία.

If we now look at the particular errors mentioned in the Anathema of the Nicene Council, we shall find that every one of them is earnestly condemned by Cyril.

“Once He was not” (Ἦν ποτε ὅτε οὐκ ἦν). This famous Arian formula is expressly rejected in Cat. xi. § 17: “Neither let us say, There was a time when the Son was not.” The eternity of the Son is asserted again and again, in reference, for instance, to His generation⁴, His Priesthood⁵, and His throne⁶.

“Before His generation He was not” (πρὶν γεννηθῆναι οὐκ ἦν). Compare with this Cyril's repeated assertions that “the Son is eternally begotten, by an inscrutable and incomprehensible generation⁷,” “the Son of God BEFORE ALL AGES, without beginning⁸,” that “time intervenes not in the generation of the Son from the Father⁹.”

“He came to be from nothing” (ἐξ οὐκ ὄντων ἐγένετο). Cyril's language is emphatic: “As I have often said, He did not bring forth the Son from non-existence (ἐκ τοῦ μὴ ὄντος) into being, nor take the non-existent into Sonship¹⁰.”

“*That He is of other subsistence or essence*” (ἐξ ἑτέρας ὑποστάσεως ἢ οὐσίας). It is certain that Cyril has given no countenance to the error or errors condemned in this clause, but is in entire agreement with the Council.

On the question whether ὑπόστασις and οὐσία have in this passage the same or different meanings, see Bull, *Def. Fid. Nic.* II. 9, 11, p. 314 (*Oxf. Ed.*). Athanasius expressly states that they are perfectly equivalent: “Subsistence (ὑπόστασις) is essence (οὐσία), and means nothing else but very being, which Jeremiah calls existence (ὑπαρξις).” Basil distinguishes them, and is followed by Bishop Bull, whose opinion is controverted by Mr. Robertson in an Excursus on the meaning of the phrase, on p. 77 of his edition of Athanasius in this Series. The student who desires to pursue the subject may consult in addition to the works

¹Councils, I. p. 124.

²*Epist.* 300 (al. 52), quoted by Bull, *D.F.N.* ii. 1, § 11.

³Athan. *Tomus ad Antiochenos*, §§ 5, 6.

⁴Cat. iv. § 7.

⁵Ib. x. § 14.

⁶Ib. xiv. § 27.

⁷Cat. xi. § 4.

⁸§ 5.

⁹§ 7.

¹⁰§ 14. Cf. S. Alex. *Epist. apud Theodoret*, § 4: “That the Son of God was not made ‘from things which are not,’ and that ‘there was no time when He was not,’ the Evangelist John sufficiently shews” (*Ante-Nic. Library*).

 lxi

just named, and the authorities therein mentioned, Dr. Newman’s *Arians of the Fourth Century*, especially chap. v. sect. i. 3, and Appendix, note iv., on “the terms οὐσία and ὑπόστασις as used in the early Church;” Mr. Robertson’s *Prolegomena*, ch. ii. § 3 (2) (b); and the Rev. H. A. Wilson’s *Prolegomena* to Gregory of Nyssa, ch. iv., in this Series.

Chapter XI.—S. Cyril’s Writings.

§ 1. *List of Works.* Besides the Catechetical and Mystagogic Lectures translated in this volume, the extant works of S. Cyril include (1) the “Letter to the Emperor Constantius concerning the appearance at Jerusalem of a luminous Cross in the sky:” (2) “The Homily on the Paralytic at the Pool of Bethesda:” and (3) Fragments of Sermons on the Miracle of the water changed into wine, and on [John xvi. 28](#), “I go to My Father.”

Another work attributed by some authorities to Cyril of Jerusalem and by others to Cyril of Alexandria is a Homily *De Occursu Domini*, that is, On the Presentation of Christ in the Temple, and the meeting with Symeon, called in the Greek Church ἡ Ὑπαπαντή.

The other Fragments and Letters mentioned in the Benedictine Edition have no claim to be considered genuine.

§ 2. *Authenticity of the Lectures.* The internal evidence of the time and place at which the Lectures were delivered has been already discussed in chapters viii. and ix., and proves beyond doubt that they must have been composed

at Jerusalem in the middle of the fourth century. At that date Cyril was the only person living in Jerusalem who is mentioned by the Ecclesiastical Historians as an author of Catechetical Lectures: and S. Jerome, a younger contemporary of Cyril, expressly mentions the Lectures which Cyril had written in his youth. In fact their authenticity seems never to have been doubted before the seventeenth century, when it was attacked with more zeal than success by two French Protestant Theologians of strongly Calvinistic opinions, Andrew Rivet (*Critic. Sacr. Lib. iii. cap. 8*, Genev. 1640), and Edmund Aubertin (*De Sacramento Eucharistiæ*, Lib. ii. p. 422, Ed. Davent., 1654). Their objections, which were reprinted at full length by Milles at the end of his Edition, were directed chiefly against the Mystagogic Lectures, and rested on dogmatic rather than on critical grounds. The argument most worthy of notice was that in a MS. of the Library of Augsburg the Mystagogic Lectures were attributed to John, Bishop of Jerusalem. This is admitted by Milles, who gives the title thus: Μυσταγωγικαὶ κατηχήσεις πέντε Ἰωάννου Ἐπισκόπου Ἱεροσολύμων, περὶ βαπτίσματος, χρίσματος, σώματος, καὶ αἵματος Χριστοῦ.

I do not find this Codex Augustinus mentioned elsewhere by any of the Editors under that name: but the Augsburg MSS. were removed to Munich in 1806, and in the older Munich MS. (Cod. Monac. i), the title of the first Mystagogic Lecture is Μυσταγωγία πρώτη Ἰωάννου ἐπισκόπου Ἱεροσολύμων. Also in Codd. Monac. 2, Ottobon. there is added at the end of the Title, τοῦ αὐτοῦ Κυρίλλου καὶ Ἰωάννου ἐπισκόπου. That John, Cyril's successor, did deliver Catechetical Lectures, we know from his own correspondence with Jerome: and this very circumstance may account for his name having been associated with, or substituted for that of Cyril.

To Rivet's objection Milles makes answer that if the mistakes of a transcriber or the stumbling of an ignorant Librarian (*imperiti Librarii cæspitationes*) have in one or two MSS. ascribed the Lectures to John or any one else, this cannot be set against the testimony of those who lived nearest to the time when the Lectures were composed, as Jerome and Theodoret. Also the internal evidence proves that the Lectures could not have been delivered later than the middle of the fourth century, whereas John succeeded Cyril about 386.

Moreover it is quite impossible to assign the two sets of Lectures to different authors.

 lxii

In Cat. xviii. § 33 the author promises, as we have seen, that he will fully explain the Sacramental Mysteries in other Lectures to be given in Easter week, in the Holy Sepulchre itself, and describes the subject of each Lecture; to which description the Mystagogic Lectures correspond in all particulars. Other promises of future explanations are given in Cat. xiii. § 19, and xvi. § 26, and fulfilled in *Myst.* iv. § 3, and ii. § 6, and iii. § i. On the other hand the author of *Myst.* i. § 9, after quoting the words, "I believe in the Father, and in the Son, and in the Holy Ghost, and in one Baptism of repentance," adds, "Of which things I spoke to thee at length in the former Lectures."

By these and many other arguments drawn from internal evidence Touttée has shewn convincingly that all the Lectures must have had the same author, and that he could be no other than Cyril.

§ 3. *Early Testimony.* Under the title "Veterum Testimonia de S. Cyrillo Hierosolymitano ejusque Scriptis," Milles collected a large number of passages bearing on the life and writings of S. Cyril, of which it will be sufficient to quote a few which refer expressly to his Lectures.

S. Jerome, in his *Book of Illustrious Men*, or *Catalogue of Ecclesiastical Writers*, composed at Bethlehem about six years after Cyril's death, writes in Chapter 112: "Cyril, Bishop of Jerusalem, having been often driven out from the Church, afterwards in the reign of Theodosius held his Bishopric undisturbed for eight years: by whom there are Catechetical Lectures, which he composed in his youth."

Theodoret, born six or seven years after the death of Cyril, in his *Dialogues* (p. 211 in this Series) gives the "Testimony of Cyril, Bishop of Jerusalem, from his fourth Catechetical Oration concerning the ten dogmas. Of the birth from a virgin, "Believe thou this, &c."

Theophanes (575 *circ.*) *Chronographia*, p. 34, Ed. Paris, 1655, defends the orthodoxy of Cyril, as follows: "It was right to avoid the word ὁμοούσιος, which at that time offended most persons, and through the objections of the adversaries deterred those who were to be baptized, and to explain clearly the co-essential doctrine by words of equivalent meaning: which also the blessed Cyril has done, by expounding the Creed of Nicæa word for word, and proclaiming Him VERY GOD OF VERY GOD."

Gelasius, Pope 492, *De duabus in Christo naturis*, quotes as from Gregory Nazianzen the words of Cyril, Cat. iv. § 9: Διπλοῦς ἦν ὁ Χριστός, κ.τ.λ.

Leontius Byzantinus (610 *circ.*) *Contra Nestor. et Eutychem*, Lib. 1. quotes the same passage expressly as taken "From the 4th Catechetical Oration of Cyril, Bishop of Jerusalem."

Many other references to the Catecheses as the work of Cyril are given by Touttée, pp. 306–315.

§ 4. *Editions.* 1. Our earliest information concerning the Greek text and translations of S. Cyril's Lectures is derived from John Grodecq, Dean of Glogau in Bohemia.

From his statement it appears that Jacob Uchanski, Archbishop of Gnessen and Primate of Poland, had obtained from Macedonia a version of the Catecheses in the Slavonic dialect, and had translated it into the Polish language some years before 1560.

2. In that year Grodecq himself published at Vienna an edition of the Mystagogic Lectures, thus described in the catalogue of the Imperial Library:—

"S. Cyril's Mystagogic Lectures to the newly baptized, which now for the first time are edited in Greek and Latin together, that he who doubts the Latin may have recourse to the Greek, and he who does not understand Greek well may read the Latin, translated by John Grodecq."

Nothing more is known of this edition: Fabricius, Milles, Touttée, and Reischl, all say that they have been unable to find any trace of it. Uchanski about this time sent to Grodecq his Slavonic and Polish versions, in order that they might be compared with the

 lxiii

Greek original. The result according to Grodecq was that the fidelity of both versions was clearly shewn, and "there could not possibly remain any doubt that these Lectures of Cyril are perfectly genuine."

Whether Uchanski's book was written or printed is unknown, as no trace of it has hitherto been found.

3. S. Cyrilli Hier. Catecheses ad Illuminandos et Mystagogicæ. Interpretatus est Joannes Grodecus. Romæ 1564. 8°.

Grodecq had come to Rome in the suite of Stanislaus Hosius, Cardinal Legate at the Council of Trent, who in the year 1562 had published in the Confession of Petricow the 4th and part of the 3rd Mystagogic Lectures from a Greek MS. belonging to Cardinal Sirlet. From this MS. Grodecq made his Latin translation, using also the work of Uchanski before mentioned. The preface is dated from Trent, on the 9th of July, 1563. The translation was published in the following year at Rome, Cologne, Antwerp, and Paris, and often elsewhere until superseded by the new Latin Version of Touttée in the Benedictine Edition.

4. In the same year, 1564, the Mystagogic Lectures and Catecheses iv., vi., viii.–x., xv., xviii. were published at Paris by William Morel, the King's Printer, under the following title:—

"S. Cyrilli Hier. Catecheses, id est institutiones ad res sacras, Græce editæ, ex bibliotheca Henrici Memmii, cum versione Latina. Cura Guil. Morellii. Paris. G. Morel., 1564. 4° min."

The Greek text depending on de Mesme's one MS., and that mutilated and faulty, is said by Touttée to have many faults and omissions, but to have been nevertheless very useful to him in correcting the text. The MS. itself had entirely disappeared. The Latin version, appended to the copy in the Royal (National) Library at Paris, but not always attached to the Greek, is said by Touttée to be a careful and elegant version, independent of Grodecq's.

A copy of Morel's Edition which formerly belonged to Du Fresne, containing various readings in the margin from two other MSS., was lent to Touttée from the Library of S. Geneviève (Genovef.).

Reischl describes the MS. as “Cod. Mesmianus (Montf. I. 185). Sec. xi.”

5. “S. Cyrilli H. Catecheses Græce et Latine ex interpretatione Joan. Grodecii nunc primum editæ, ex variis bibliothecis, præcipue Vaticana, studio et opera Joan. Prevotii. Paris. (Claude Morellus), 1608.” This was the first complete edition of the Greek text. Prevot, a native of Bordeaux, states in the Dedication to Pope Paul V., that by the help of MSS. “melioris notæ” found in the Vatican, he had both corrected the text of the Lectures previously published by Morel, and carefully transcribed the rest. He made, according to Touttée, many useful emendations, but did not mention the number, age, nor various readings of the MSS. employed.

6. “S. Cyrilli Hier. Arch. opera quæ supersunt omnia; quorum quædam nunc primum ex Codd. MSS. edidit, reliqua cum Codd. MSS. contulit, plurimis in locis emendavit, Notisque illustravit Tho. Milles S.T.B. ex Æde Christi Oxoniæ, e Theatro Sheldoniano, Impensis Richardi Sare Bibliopol. Lond. MDCCIII.”

The author of this fine Edition gives us in his Preface the following description of his work:—

“In the first place I wished to amend more thoroughly the text of J. Prevot, which, as I said, he himself largely corrected and supplied from MSS. in the Vatican, and which I have printed in this Edition: I have therefore compared it with all the other Editions that I could collect, and in this manner have easily removed many errors both of the printers and of Prevot himself. Afterwards I carefully compared all the Catecheses and the Epistle to Constantinus with two MSS. and some with three, namely iv., vi., viii.–x., xv., xvi., xviii. The first Codex, written on parchment apparently six hundred years ago, I found among those MSS. which Sir Tho. Roe, our first Ambassador from King James I. to the Great Mogul, brought from the East, and presented to the Bodleian Library. The second we owe to the

ixiv

diligence of Isaac Casaubon, who collated the Catecheses and Epistle to Constantius with a MS. which he chanced to find, I think, in some Library in France, and carefully noted all the various readings in the margin. This copy of Casaubon’s the Right Reverend Father in Christ, John Bishop of Norwich, very kindly lent to me out of his well-furnished Library, and of his great love for learning did not disdain to shew the highest favour to my slight endeavours.”

Touttée thinks that the MS. from which Casaubon drew his various readings was C. Roe itself, or that one of the two MSS. had been copied from the other, or both from the same.

7. “S. Cyrilli Arch. Hier. opera quæ exstant omnia et ejus nomine circumferuntur, ad MSS. codices necnon ad superiores Editiones castigata, Dissertationibus et Notis illustrata, cum nova interpretatione et copiosis indicibus. Cura et studio Domni Antonii-Augustini Touttéi, Presbyteri et Monachi Benedictini e Congregatione S. Mauri. Paris. Typis Jac. Vincent. 1720, fol. (Recusa Venet. 1763).”

Of the Greek text the Editor says, “I have collated it as carefully as I could with Grodecq’s translation, Morel’s and Prevot’s Editions, and with MSS. to be found in this City. The various readings of the Roman MSS. I have obtained by the help of friends: those which Milles had collected from the English Codices I have adopted for my own use.”

8. “S. Cyrilli Hier. Arch. opp. quæ supersunt omnia ad libros MSS. et impressos recensuit Notis criticis commentariis indicibusque locupletissimis illustravit Gulielm. Car. Reischl S. Th. D. et Reg. Lycei Ambergensis Professor. Vol. I Monac. M DCCC XLVIII.”

The Editor says in his Preface that he has altered the Benedictine text only when the evidence was very weighty, and has then given all the various readings in the critical notes. The exegetical commentary was to be reserved for the 2nd Volume, but this Dr. Reischl did not live to complete.

The Prolegomena contain (1) Touttée’s inordinately long “Life of Cyril,” (2) a Dissertation on the general character and authenticity of the Catecheses, and (3) an “Apparatus Litterarius,” to which I have been indebted.

Vol. ii., containing Catecheses xii.–xviii., *Myst.* i.–v., and the other works, genuine and spurious, attributed to Cyril, was published by J. Rupp at Munich, 1860.

The MSS. used in revising the text of this, the best critical edition, will be noticed below.

9. An Edition of the Catecheses only was published at Jerusalem in 1867, having been commenced in 1849 at the request of the Archbishop, Cyril II., by Dionysius Kleopas, Principal of the Theological School of Jerusalem, and, after his death in 1861, continued by his successor Photius Alexandrides, "Archdeacon of the Apostolic and Patriarchal See of Jerusalem, and Principal of the Theological School."

The Editor gives in the Preface an interesting account of the life of Kleopas, and of the work which he left unfinished.

§ 5. MANUSCRIPTS. From the preceding account of the various Editions of S. Cyril we may obtain the following list of authorities which have been hitherto used in revising the Text.

1. Codex Sirletianus, known only by Grodecq's Latin version, Rome, 1564. Cf. § 1. 3.
2. C. Mesmianus, known only in Morel's edition, Paris, 1564. Cf. § i. 4.
3. Vatican MSS. used by Prevot. 1608, but not identified. Cf. § i. 5.
4. C. Roe, Bibl. Bodleian. Oxon. "Codex membranaceus in folio, ff. 223, sec. xi., binis columnis bene exaratus;" [ol. 271].
5. C. Casaubon. On this and the preceding MS. see Milles as quoted above, § i. 6.
6. C. Ottobonianus (1) ol. [Rom. iv.](#) membran. sec. xi. "Continet Catecheses omnes et Epist. ad Constantium. Multas habet insignes ab editis varietates."

C. Ottob. (2), "Chartaceus et recens est, nihil fere ab editis discrepans."

These are the Roman MSS. mentioned by Touttée: see above, § i. 7.

lxv

7. C. Coislin. 227 (ol. 101). Membran. Sæc. xi. *circ.* "From this came many important emendations" (Touttée, *Notitia Codicum MSS.*).

In the descriptions of the following MSS. of the National Library at Paris there is so much discrepancy between Touttée and Reischl, that it is better to quote both.

8. "Catecheses xii., xiii., xiv., xv., comparavi cum Codice Reg. bibliothecæ num. 2503. Scriptus est in bombycina charta an. 1231, quam anni notam apposuit calligraphus" (Touttée, *Not. Codd. MSS.*).

Reischl has no notice of a MS. at all answering to this description.

9. Cod. Reg. alter, "ol. 1260, nunc 1824, qui S. Basilii opera complectitur, sub ejus nomine Procatechesin continet" (Touttée, *Not. Codd. MSS.*): *aliter*, "Cod. Reg. ol. 260, nunc 1284, pag. 254, qui duodecimi circiter est sæculi, in quo habetur Procatechesis hæc sub nomine S. Basilii" (Id. *Monit. in Procatechesin*).

"Cod. Reg. 467 (apud Touttéum, 1824) Fonteblandensis, chartac. fol. sec. x. Continet sub S. Basilii nomine *Orationem de Baptismo*, quæ est S. Cyrilli Hier. Procatechesis. C. Reg. Touttéi" (Reischl).

10. "Cod. Reg. 969 (ol. Mazarin.) Epistolarum S. Basilii. 4°. Sec. xiv. Exhibet sub n. 7 Basilii homiliam *quo* (sic) *ostenditur Deum esse incomprehensibilem*, quæ non S. Basilii, sed Cyrilli est Procatechesis" (Reischl).

This description agrees in substance with Touttée's.

11. C. Colbert. "Catecheses iv., vi., viii., ix., x., xv., xviii., contuli cum cod. Colbert. Biblioth. chartaceo et recenti 4863 notato...In omnibus pene cum Morelliana editione consentit" (Toultée, *Notitia Codd. MSS.*).

Reischl makes no mention of this MS.

12. C. Colbert. alter. "membran. sign. 1717, Sec. xiii. diversas Patrum homilias continet, et Cat. xiii. exhibet sub nomine Cyrillianæ in Crucem et Porasceven homiliæ" (Toultée, *Notitia*).

This is described by Reischl as "Cod. Reg. 771 (ol. 1717) Colbertinus. Membran. fol. seculi xiii.–xiv."

The following MSS. have been used in Editions later than the Benedictine.

13. "C. Monacensis I. 394 membran. fol., titulis et initialibus miniatis, f. 261 nitidissime uncialibus minutis circiter seculo decimo in Oriente scriptus."

This was regarded both by Reischl and by Rupp as the most important authority for the text: it is much older than Codd. Roe, Casaub., and seems to be related to Codd. Ottobon. Coislin.

C. Mon. 2 of the 16th Century is of little value.

14. "C. Vindobonensis, 55, membran. fol antiquissimus, sed incerto sæculo."

A full account is given by Rupp in the Preface to Vol. ii. It was collated by Joseph Müller, 1848, and contains all Cyril's Lectures, except the Procatechesis.

15. Codex A, found by Kleopas in the Library of the Archbishop of Cyprus, and used as the basis of his text, sometimes stands alone in preserving the true reading.

§ 6. *Versions.* Besides the Latin Translations published with the Greek text, as mentioned above, Reischl mentions the first three of the following:—

(a) Les catéchèses de Saint Cyrille. Traduit par Louis Ganey. Paris, 1564.

(b) Cyrill's Schriften übersetzt und mit Anmerkungen versehen von J. Mich. Feder.

Bamberg, 1786.

(c) Cyrilli Hier. Catecheses in Armen. Linguam versæ. Viennæ 1832.

(d) The Catechetical Lectures of S. Cyril, Archbishop of Jerusalem, Translated, with Notes and Indices (Library of Fathers of the Holy Catholic Church.) Parker, Oxford, 1838. See Preface.

lxvi

(e) S. Cyril on the Mysteries. (The five Mystagogic Lectures.) H. de Romestin. Parker, Oxford, 1887.

(f) On Faith and the Creed. C. A. Heurtley, D.D., Margaret Professor of Divinity, and Canon of Christ Church, Oxford. Parker, 3rd Ed., 1889. Contains, with other Treatises, the Fourth Catechetical Lecture of S. Cyril.

In the present volume the translation given in the Oxford "Library of Fathers" has been carefully revised throughout. Where it has been found necessary to depart from the Benedictine text, the Editor has consulted the readings and critical notes of Milles, Reischl, and Rupp, and the Jerusalem edition of Kleopas and Anaxandrides.

A few additions have been made to the index of Subjects: the Indices of Greek Words and of Scripture Texts have been much enlarged, and carefully revised. For any errors which may have escaped observation the indulgence of the critical reader will not, it is hoped, be asked in vain.

THE
CATECHETICAL LECTURES
OF
S. CYRIL,
ARCHBISHOP OF JERUSALEM.

PROCATECHESIS,

OR,

PROLOGUE TO THE CATECHETICAL LECTURES OF OUR HOLY FATHER,
CYRIL, ARCHBISHOP OF JERUSALEM.

1. ALREADY there is an odour of blessedness upon you, O ye who are soon to be enlightened¹: already ye are gathering the spiritual² flowers, to weave heavenly crowns: already the fragrance of the Holy Spirit has breathed upon you: already ye have gathered round the vestibule of the King's palace³; may ye be led in also by the King! For blossoms now have appeared upon the trees⁴; may the fruit also be found perfect! Thus far there has been an inscription of your names⁵, and a call to service, and torches⁶ of the bridal train, and a longing for heavenly citizenship, and a good purpose, and hope attendant thereon. For he lieth not who said, *that to them that love God all things work together for good*. God is lavish in beneficence, yet He waits for each man's genuine will: therefore the Apostle added and said, *to them that are called according to a purpose*⁷. The honesty of purpose makes thee called: for if thy body be here but not thy mind, it profiteth thee nothing.

2. Even Simon Magus once came to the Laver⁸: he was baptized, but was not enlightened; and though he dipped his body in water, he enlightened not his heart with the Spirit: his body went down and came up, but his soul was not buried with Christ, nor raised with Him⁹. Now I mention the statements¹⁰ of (men's) falls, that thou mayest not fall: for these things happened to them by way of example, *and they are written for the admonition*¹¹ of those who to this day draw near. Let none of you be found tempting His grace, *lest any root of bitterness spring up and trouble you*¹². Let none of you enter saying, Let us see what the faithful¹³ are doing: let me go in and see, that I may learn what is being done. Dost thou expect to see, and not expect to be seen? And thinkest thou, that whilst thou art searching out what is going on, God is not searching thy heart?

3. A certain man in the Gospels once pried into the marriage feast¹⁴, and took an unbecoming garment, and came in, sat down, and ate: for the bridegroom permitted it. But when he saw them all clad in white¹⁵, he ought to have assumed a garment of the same kind himself: whereas he partook of the like food, but was unlike them in

fashion and in purpose. The bridegroom, however, though bountiful, was not undiscerning: and in going round to each of the guests and observing them (for his care was not for their eating, but for their seemly behaviour), he saw a stranger *not having on a wedding garment*, and said to him, *Friend, how camest thou in hither?* In what a colour¹⁶! With what a conscience! What though the door-keeper forbade thee not, because of the bountifulness of the entertainer? what though thou wert ignorant in what fashion thou shouldst come in to the banquet?—thou

¹The “blessedness” is the grace of Baptism, the hope of which is as a fragrant odour already borne towards the Candidates. These were called no longer Catechumens, but φωτιζόμενοι, as already on the way “to be enlightened.” Compare xvi. 26, the last sentence, and see Index, “enlighten.”

²νοητά. The word is much used by Plato to distinguish things which can be discerned only by the mind from the objects of sight and sense. Here “the spiritual (or, mental) flowers” are the Divine truths in which “the fragrance of the Holy Spirit” breathes.

³By “the vestibule” is meant “the outer hall of the Baptistery” (xix. 2), and by “the King’s Palace” the Baptistery itself, which Cyril calls “the inner chamber” (xx. 1) and “the bride-chamber” (iii. 2; xxii. 2). See Index, “Baptistery.” Here the local terms have also an allegorical sense, Baptism being regarded as the marriage of the Soul to Christ.

⁴Another allegory, from the season of Spring, when the Lectures were delivered.

⁵ὀνοματογραφία. See Index.

⁶That the Candidates on their first admission carried torches or lighted tapers in procession is a conjecture founded on this passage and Lect. I. 1: “Ye who have just lighted the torches of faith, preserve them in your hands unquenched.” But see Index, “Lights.”

⁷Rom. viii. 28. In S. Paul’s argument the “purpose” is God’s eternal purpose of salvation through Christ (Eph. i. 11; iii. 11): but Cyril applies it here to sincerity of purpose in coming to Baptism.

⁸Acts viii. 13.

⁹Rom. vi. 4; Col. ii. 12.

¹⁰Greek, ὑπογραφή, meaning either an “indictment,” or a descriptive “sketch.” For the former meaning, see Plato, *Theaet.* 172, E. ὑπογραφήν ... ἣν ἀντωμοσίαν καλοῦσιν.

¹¹1 Cor. x. 11.

¹²Heb. xii. 15.

¹³“The faithful” are those who have been already baptized, and instructed in those mysteries of the Christian Faith which were reserved for the initiated. See Index, “Faithful.”

¹⁴Matt. xxii. 12. The same passage is applied to Baptism in Cat. iii. 2.

¹⁵See Cat. xxii. 8 and Index, “White.”

¹⁶The Greed word (χρῶμα) is used by Ignatius in the beginning of his *Epistle to the Romans* of a discolouring stain.

didst come in, and didst see the glittering fashions of the guests: shouldst thou not have been taught even by

what was before thine eyes? Shouldest thou not have retired in good season, that thou mightest enter in good season again? But now thou hast come in unseasonably, to be unseasonably cast out. So he commands the servants, *Bind his feet*, which daringly intruded: *bind his hands*, which knew not how to put a bright garment around him: *and cast him into the outer darkness*; for he is unworthy of the wedding torches¹. Thou seest what happened to that man: make thine own condition safe.

4. For we, the ministers of Christ, have admitted every one, and occupying, as it were, the place of door-keepers we left the door open: and possibly thou didst enter with thy soul bemired with sins, and with a will defiled. Enter thou didst, and wast allowed: thy name was inscribed. Tell me, dost thou behold this venerable constitution of the Church? Dost thou view her order and discipline², the reading of Scriptures³, the presence of the ordained⁴, the course of instruction⁵? Be abashed at the place, and be taught by what thou seest⁶. Go out opportunely now, and enter most opportunely to-morrow.

If the fashion of thy soul is avarice, put on another fashion and come in. Put off thy former fashion, cloke it not up. Put off, I pray thee, fornication and uncleanness, and put on the brightest robe of chastity. This charge I give thee, before Jesus the Bridegroom of souls come in and see their fashions. A long notice⁷ is allowed thee; thou hast forty⁸ days for repentance: thou hast full opportunity both to put off, and wash, and to put on and enter. But if thou persist in an evil purpose, the speaker is blameless, but thou must not look for the grace: for the water will receive, but the Spirit will not accept thee⁹. If any one is conscious of his wound, let him take the salve; if any has fallen, let him arise. Let there be no Simon among you, no hypocrisy, no idle curiosity about the matter.

5. Possibly too thou art come on another pretext. It is possible that a man is wishing to pay court to a woman, and came hither on that account¹⁰. The remark applies in like manner to women also in their turn. A slave also perhaps wishes to please his master, and a friend his friend. I accept this bait for the hook, and welcome thee, though thou camest with an evil purpose, yet as one to be saved by a good hope. Perhaps thou knewest not whether thou wert coming, nor in what kind of net thou art taken. Thou art come within the Church's nets¹¹: be taken alive, flee not: for Jesus is angling for thee, not in order to kill, but by killing to make alive: for thou must die and rise again. For thou hast heard the Apostle say, *Dead indeed unto sin, but living unto righteousness*¹². Die to thy sins, and live to righteousness, live from this very day.

6. See, I pray thee, how great a dignity Jesus bestows on thee. Thou wert called a Catechumen, while the word echoed¹³ round thee from without; hearing of hope, and knowing it not; hearing mysteries, and not understanding them; hearing Scriptures, and not knowing their depth. The echo is no longer around thee, but within thee; for *the indwelling Spirit*¹⁴ henceforth makes thy mind a house of God. When thou shalt have heard what is written concerning the mysteries, then wilt thou understand things which thou knewest not. And think not that thou receivest a small thing: though a miserable man, thou receivest one of God's titles. Hear St. Paul saying, *God is faithful*¹⁵. Hear another Scripture saying, *God is faithful and just*¹⁶. Foreseeing this, the Psalmist, because men are to receive a title of God, spoke thus in the person of God: I said, *Ye are Gods, and are all sons of the Most High*¹⁷. But beware lest thou have the title of "*faithful*," but the will of the faithless. Thou hast entered into a contest, toil on through the race: another such opportunity thou canst not have¹⁸. Were it thy wedding-day before thee, wouldest thou not have disregarded all else, and set about the preparation for the feast? And on the eve of consecrating thy soul to the heavenly Bridegroom, wilt thou not cease from carnal things, that thou mayest win spiritual?

¹Compare § 1, note 6.

²The Greek word (ἐπιστήμη) which commonly means "knowledge" or "understanding," is applied here and in vi. 35 to the intelligence and skill displayed in the arrangement of the public services of the Church. Compare *Apostolic Constitutions*, ii. 57, where the Bishop is exhorted to have the assemblies arranged μετὰ πάσης ἐπιστήμης.

³In the same passage of the *Apostolic Constitutions* precise directions are given for reading a Lesson from the Old Testament, singing the Psalms, and reading the Epistle and Gospel.

⁴By "the ordained" (καλονικῶν) are meant all whose names were registered as bearing office in the Church,

Priests, Deacons, Deaconesses, Monks, Virgins, Widows, all having their appointed placed and proper duties.
Apost. Canon. 70, εἴ τις ἐπίσκοπος, ἢ πρεσβύτερος, ἢ διάκονος, ἢ ὅλως τοῦ καταλόγου τῶν κληρικῶν, κ.τ.λ.

⁵Compare *Apost. Const.* as above: “Let the Presbyters one by one, not all together, exhort the people; and the Bishop last, as being the commander.”

⁶S. Aug. *de Civit. Dei.*, ii. 28: “Though some come to mock at such admonitions, all their insolence is either humbled by a sudden conversation (*immutatio*) or suppressed by fear or shame.”

⁷Greek, προθεσμία. Compare [Gal. iv. 2](#): “the time appointed of the father.” At Athens it meant a “limitation,” or fixed period within which a debt must be claimed or paid, or an action commenced.

⁸Index, “Lent.”

⁹Compare xvii. 36.

¹⁰S. Ambrose on the 119th Psalm, *Serm. xx.* § 48, speaks of some who pretended to be Christians in order to marry one whose parents would not give her in marriage to a heathen.

¹¹[Matt. xiii. 47.](#)

¹²[Rom. vi. 11, 14.](#)

¹³S. Cyril plays upon the word “Catechumen,” which has the same root as “echo.”

¹⁴[Rom. viii. 9, 11.](#)

¹⁵[1 Cor. i. 9.](#)

¹⁶[1 John i. 9.](#)

¹⁷[Ps. lxxxi. 6.](#)

¹⁸Compare xvii. 36.

3

7. We may not receive Baptism twice or thrice; else it might be said, Though I have failed once, I shall set it right a second time: whereas if thou fail once, the thing cannot be set right; for there is *one Lord, and one faith, and one baptism*¹: for only the heretics are re-baptized², because the former was no baptism.

8. For God seeks nothing else from us, save a good purpose. Say not, How are my sins blotted out? I tell thee, By willing, by believing³. What can be shorter than this? But if, while thy lips declare thee willing, thy heart be silent, He knoweth the heart, who judgeth thee. Cease from this day from every evil deed. Let not thy tongue speak unseemly words, let thine eye abstain from sin, and from roving⁴ after things unprofitable.

9. Let thy feet hasten to the catechisings; receive with earnestness the exorcisms⁵: whether thou be breathed upon or exorcised, the act is to thee salvation. Suppose thou hast gold unwrought and alloyed, mixed with various substances, copper, and tin, and iron, and lead: we seek to have the gold alone; can gold be purified from the foreign substances without fire? Even so without exorcisms the soul cannot be purified; and these exorcisms are divine, having been collected out of the divine Scriptures. Thy face has been veiled⁶, that thy mind may henceforward be free, lest the eye by roving make the heart rove also. But when thine eyes are veiled, thine ears are not hindered from receiving the means of salvation. For in like manner as those who are skilled in the goldsmith's craft throw in their breath upon the fire through certain delicate instruments, and blowing up the gold

which is hidden in the crucible stir the flame which surrounds it, and so find what they are seeking; even so when the exorcists inspire terror by the Spirit of God, and set the soul, as it were, on fire in the crucible of the body, the hostile demon flees away, and there abide salvation and the hope of eternal life, and the soul henceforth is cleansed from its sins and hath salvation. Let us then, brethren, abide in hope, and surrender ourselves, and hope, in order that the God of all may see our purpose, and cleanse us from our sins, and impart to us good hopes of our estate, and grant us repentance that bringeth salvation. God hath called, and His call is to thee.

10. Attend closely to the catechisings, and though we should prolong our discourse, let not thy mind be wearied out. For thou art receiving armour against the adverse power, armour against heresies, against Jews, and Samaritans⁷, and Gentiles. Thou hast many enemies; take to thee many darts, for thou hast many to hurl them at: and thou hast need to learn how to strike down the Greek, how to contend against heretic, against Jew and Samaritan. And the armour is ready, and most ready *the sword of the Spirit*⁸: but thou also must stretch forth thy right hand with good resolution, that thou mayest war the Lord's warfare, and overcome adverse powers, and become invincible against every heretical attempt.

11. Let me give thee this charge also. Study our teachings and keep them for ever. Think not that they are the ordinary homilies⁹; for though they also are good and trustworthy, yet if we should neglect them to-day we may study them to-morrow. But if the teaching concerning the laver of regeneration delivered in a consecutive course be neglected to-day, when shall it be made right? Suppose it is the season for planting trees: if we do not dig, and dig deep, when else can that be planted rightly which has once been planted ill? Suppose, pray, that the Catechising is a kind of building: if we do not bind the house together by regular bonds in the building, lest some gap be found, and the building become unsound, even our former labour is of no use. But stone must follow stone by course, and corner match with corner, and by our smoothing off inequalities the building must thus rise evenly. In like manner we are bringing to thee stones, as it were, of knowledge. Thou must hear concerning the living God, thou must hear of Judgment, must hear of Christ, and of the Resurrection. And many things there are to be discussed in succession, which though now dropped one by one are afterwards to be presented in harmonious connexion. But unless thou fit them together in the one whole, and remember what is first, and what is second, the builder may build, but thou wilt find the building unsound.

12. When, therefore, the Lecture is delivered,

¹[Eph. iv. 5.](#)

²This sentence is omitted in one ms. (Paris, 1824), but probably only through the repetition of the word "baptism." On the laws of the Church against the repetition of Baptism, and concerning the re-baptism of heretics, see Tertull. *de Baptismo*, c. xv: *Apost. Const.* xv.: Bingham, xii. 5: Hefele, *Councils*, Lib. I. c. 2: Dictionary Christian Antiq. I. p. 167 a.

³Rufinus, in the *Exposition of the Creed*, on the *Remission of sins*: "The Pagans are wont to say in derision of us, that we deceive ourselves in thinking that crimes which have been committed in deed can be washed out by words."

⁴The reading in the Benedictine Edition, μηδὲ ὁ νοῦς σου ῥεμβέσθω, has little authority, and is quite unsuitable. See below, τὸ βλέμμα ῥεμβόμενον.

⁵Index, "Exorcism."

⁶Index, "Veiling."

⁷The Samaritans are frequently mentioned by Epiphanius and other writers of the 4th century among the chief adversaries of Christianity. "In their humble synagogue, at the foot of the mountain (Gerizim), the Samaritans still worship, the oldest and the smallest sect in the world." (Stanley, *Sinai and Palestine*, p. 240.)

⁸[Eph. vi. 17.](#)

⁹See above, § 4, note 3.

if a Catechumen ask thee what the teachers have said, tell nothing to him that is without¹. For we deliver to thee a mystery, and a hope of the life to come. Guard the mystery for Him who gives the reward. Let none ever say to thee, What harm to thee, if I also know it? So too the sick ask for wine; but if it be given at a wrong time it causes delirium, and two evils arise; the sick man dies, and the physician is blamed. Thus is it also with the Catechumen, if he hear anything from the believer: both the Catechumen becomes delirious (for he understands not what he has heard, and finds fault with the thing, and scoffs at what is said), and the believer is condemned as a traitor. But thou art now standing on the border: take heed, pray, to tell nothing out; not that the things spoken are not worthy to be told, but because his ear is unworthy to receive. Thou wast once thyself a Catechumen, and I described not what lay before thee. When by experience thou hast learned how high are the matters of our teaching, then thou wilt know that the Catechumens are not worthy to hear them.

13. Ye who have been enrolled are become sons and daughters of one Mother. When ye have come in before the hour of the exorcisms, let each one of you speak things tending to godliness: and if any of your number be not present, seek for him. If thou wert called to a banquet, wouldest thou not wait for thy fellow guest? If thou hadst a brother, wouldest thou not seek thy brother's good?

Afterwards busy not thyself about unprofitable matters: neither, what the city has done, nor the village, nor the King², nor the Bishop, nor the Presbyter. Look upward; that is what thy present hour needeth. *Be still³, and know that I am God.* If thou seest the believers ministering, and shewing no care, they enjoy security, they know what they have received, they are in possession of grace. But thou standest just now in the turn of the scale, to be received or not: copy not those who have freedom from anxiety, but cherish fear.

14. And when the Exorcism has been done, until the others who are being exorcised have come⁴, let men be with men, and women with women. For now I need the example of Noah's ark: in which were Noah and his sons, and his wife and his sons' wives. For though the ark was one, and the door was shut, yet had things been suitably arranged. If the Church is shut, and you are all inside, yet let there be a separation, men with men, and women with women⁵: lest the pretext of salvation become an occasion of destruction. Even if there be a fair pretext for sitting near each other, let passions be put away. Further, let the men when sitting have a useful book; and let one read, and another listen: and if there be no book, let one pray, and another speak something useful. And again let the party of young women sit together in like manner, either singing or reading quietly, so that their lips speak, but others' ears catch not the sound: *for I suffer not a woman to speak in the Church⁶*. And let the married woman also follow the same example, and pray; and let her lips move, but her voice be unheard, that a Samuel⁷ may come, and thy barren soul give birth to the salvation of "God who hath heard thy prayer;" for this is the interpretation of the name Samuel.

15. I shall observe each man's earnestness, each woman's reverence. Let your mind be refined as by fire unto reverence; let your soul be forged as metal: let the stubbornness of unbelief be hammered out: let the superfluous scales of the iron drop off, and what is pure remain; let the rust of the iron be rubbed off, and the true metal remain. May God sometime shew you that night, the darkness which shines like the day, concerning which it is said, *The darkness shall not be hidden from thee, and the night shall shine as the day⁸*. Then may the gate of Paradise be opened to every man and every woman among you. Then may you enjoy the Christ-bearing waters in their fragrance⁹. Then may you receive the name of Christ¹⁰, and the power of things divine. Even now, I beseech you, lift up the eye of the

¹On the *Disciplina Arcani*, or rule against publishing the Christian Creed and Mysteries to Catechumens and Gentiles, see Index, "*Mysteries*."

²The title "King" (Βασιλεύς) is used in the Greek Liturgies and Fathers of the Roman Emperor, as in the Clementine Liturgy: ὑπὲρ τοῦ βασιλέως, καὶ τῶν ἐν ὑπεροχῇ, where it is taken from [1 Tim. ii. 2](#). Compare Cat. xiv. 14, and 22: Κωνσταντίνου τοῦ βασιλέως.

³[Ps. xlv. 10](#). Sept. σχολάσατε, "give attention freely."

⁴From S. Augustine, *de Symbolo*, i. 1 (Migne T. vi. p. 930), we learn that the Candidates were brought in before the

Congregation one by one for exorcism; and so, as Cyril here shews, they had to wait outside till the others returned.

⁵Chrys. in *Matt. Hom.* lxxiv. § 3: "You ought to have within you the wall that separates you from the women: but since ye will not, our fathers have thought it necessary to separate you at least by these boards; for I have heard from my elders that there were not these walls in old times." These barriers had not yet been introduced at Jerusalem, or Cyril's admonition would have been needless. Compare *Apostolic Constitutions*, II. 57.

⁶[1 Cor. xiv. 34](#); [1 Tim. ii. 12](#).

⁷[1 Sam. i. 13, 20](#). On the various interpretations of the name Samuel, see *Dict. Bib.* "Samuel," and Driver on the passage. Cyril adopts the meaning "heard of God."

⁸[Ps. cxxxix. 12](#). On Easter Eve the Church was full of lights which were kept burning all night, and the newly-baptized carried torches. Gregory of Nyssa, preaching on the Resurrection (*Orat.* iv.) describes the scene: "This brilliant night, by mingling the flames of torches with the morning rays of the sun, has made one continuous day, not divided by the interposition of darkness."

⁹Or, as the Benedictine Editor conjectures, "the waters which have a Christ-bearing (χριστοφόρον) fragrance." On the epithet χριστοφόρος, see Bishop Lightfoot's note on Ignat. *ad Eph.* § 1 and § 9. Its meaning, as well as that of Θεοφόρος is defined in the answer of Ignatius to Trajan, Ὁ Χριστὸν ἔχων ἐν στέροισι (*Martyr. Ign. Ant.* § 2).

¹⁰Cat. xxi. 1: "made partakers therefore of Christ, ye are rightly called Christs."

5

mind: even now imagine the choirs of Angels, and God the Lord of all there sitting, and His Only-begotten Son sitting with Him on His right hand, and the Spirit present with them; and Thrones and Dominions doing service, and every man of you and every woman receiving salvation. Even now let your ears ring, as it were, with that glorious sound, when over your salvation the angels shall chant, *Blessed are they whose iniquities are forgiven, and whose sins are covered*¹: when like stars of the Church you shall enter in, bright in the body and radiant in the soul.

16. Great is the Baptism that lies before you²: a ransom to captives; a remission of offences; a death of sin; a new-birth of the soul; a garment of light; a holy indissoluble seal; a chariot to heaven; the delight of Paradise; a welcome into the kingdom; the gift of adoption! But there is a serpent by the wayside watching those who pass by: beware lest he bite thee with unbelief. He sees so many receiving salvation, and is *seeking whom he may devour*³. Thou art coming in unto the Father of Spirits, but thou art going past that serpent. How then mayest thou pass him? Have *thy feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace*⁴; that even if he bite, he may not hurt thee. Have faith in-dwelling, stedfast hope, a strong sandal, that thou mayest pass the enemy, and enter the presence of thy Lord. Prepare thine own heart for reception of doctrine, for fellowship in holy mysteries. Pray more frequently, that God may make thee worthy of the heavenly and immortal mysteries. Cease not day nor night: but when sleep is banished from thine eyes, then let thy mind be free for prayer. And if thou find any shameful thought rise up in thy mind, turn to meditation upon Judgment to remind thee of Salvation. Give thy mind wholly to study, that it may forget base things. If thou find any one saying to thee, Art thou then going in, to descend into the water? Has the city just now no baths? take notice that it is *the dragon of the sea*⁵ who is laying these plots against thee. Attend not to the lips of the talker, but to God who worketh in thee. Guard thine own soul, that thou be not ensnared, to the end that abiding in hope thou mayest become an heir of everlasting salvation.

17. We for our part as men charge and teach you thus: but make not ye our building *hay and stubble* and chaff, lest we *suffer loss*, from our *work being burnt up*: but make ye our work gold, and silver, and precious stones⁶! For it lies in me to speak, but in thee to set thy mind⁷ upon it, and in God to make perfect. Let us nerve our minds, and brace up our souls, and prepare our hearts. The race is for our soul: our hope is of things eternal: and God, who knoweth your hearts, and observeth who is sincere, and who a hypocrite, is able both to guard the sincere, and to give faith to the hypocrite: for even to the unbeliever, if only he give his heart, God is able to give faith. So may He *blot out the handwriting that is against you*⁸, and grant you forgiveness of your former trespasses; may He plant you into His Church, and enlist you in His own service, and put on you *the armour of righteousness*⁹:

may He fill you with the heavenly things of the New Covenant, and give you the seal of the Holy Spirit indelible throughout all ages, in Christ Jesus Our Lord: to whom be the glory for ever and ever! Amen.

(*To the Reader*¹⁰.)

These Catechetical Lectures for those who are to be enlightened thou mayest lend to candidates for Baptism, and to believers who are already baptized, to read, but give not at all¹¹, neither to Catechumens, nor to any others who are not Christians, as thou shalt answer to the Lord. And if thou make a copy, write this in the beginning, as in the sight of the Lord.

¹[Ps. xxxii. 1](#), which verse is still chanted in the Greek Church as soon as the Baptism is completed.

²S. Basil has a passage in praise of Baptism almost the same, word for word, with this. It is more likely to have been borrowed from Cyril by Basil and other Fathers, than to be a later interpolation here.

³[1 Pet. v. 8](#).

⁴[Eph. vi. 15](#).

⁵[Is. xxvii. 1](#).

⁶[1 Cor. iii. 12, 15](#).

⁷Greek προσθέσθαι, Sept. [Deut. xiii. 4](#), "cleave unto Him." Compare [Josh. xxiii. 12](#); [Ps. lxii. 10](#), "Set not your heart upon them."

⁸[Col. ii. 14](#).

⁹[2 Cor. vi. 7](#); [Rom. vi. 13](#).

¹⁰It is doubtful whether this caution proceeded from Cyril himself when issuing a written copy of his Lectures, or from some later editor. Eusebius (*E.H.* v. 20) has preserved an adjuration by Irenæus at the end of his treatise, *On the Ogdoad*: I adjure thee, who mayest transcribe this book, by Our Lord Jesus Christ, and by His glorious advent, when He cometh to judge the quick and the dead, to compare what thou hast written and correct it carefully by this copy, from which thou hast transcribed it; this adjuration also thou shalt write in like manner, and set it in the copy.

¹¹Gr. τὸ σύνολον. Plat. Leg. 654 B; Soph. 220 B.

FIRST CATECHETICAL LECTURE

of

Our Holy Father Cyril,

Archbishop of Jerusalem,

To those who are to be Enlightened, delivered extempore at Jerusalem, as an
Introductory Lecture to those who had come forward for Baptism¹ :

WITH A READING FROM [Isa. 1.16](#)

*Wash you, make you clean; put away your iniquities from your souls, from before mine eyes, and the rest*² .

1. DISCIPLES of the New Testament and partakers of the mysteries of Christ, as yet by calling only, but ere long by grace also, *make you a new heart and a new spirit*³ , that there may be gladness among the inhabitants of heaven: for *if over one sinner that repenteth there is joy*, according to the Gospel⁴ , how much more shall the salvation of so many souls move the inhabitants of heaven to gladness. As ye have entered upon a good and most glorious path, run with reverence the race of godliness. For the Only-begotten Son of God is present here most ready to redeem you, saying, *Come unto Me all that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest*⁵ . Ye that are clothed with the rough garment⁶ of your offences, who are *holden with the cords of your own sins*, hear the voice of the Prophet saying, *Wash you, make you clean, put away your iniquities from before Mine eyes*⁷ : that the choir of Angels may chant over you, *Blessed are they whose iniquities are forgiven, and whose sins are covered*⁸ . Ye who have just lighted the torches of faith⁹ , guard them carefully in your hands unquenched; that He, who erewhile on this all-holy Golgotha opened Paradise to the robber on account of his faith, may grant to you to sing the bridal song.

2. If any here is a slave of sin, let him promptly prepare himself through faith for the new birth into freedom and adoption; and having put off the miserable bondage of his sins, and taken on him the most blessed bondage of the Lord, so may he be counted worthy to inherit the kingdom of heaven. *Put off, by confession*¹⁰ , *the old man, which waxeth corrupt after the lusts of deceit*, that ye may *put on the new man, which is renewed according to knowledge of Him that created him*¹¹ . Get you *the earnest of the Holy Spirit*¹² through faith, that ye may be able to be *received into the everlasting habitations*¹³ . Come for the mystical Seal, that ye may be easily recognised by the Master; be ye numbered among the holy and spiritual flock of Christ, to be set apart on His right hand, and inherit the life prepared for you. For they to whom the rough garment¹⁴ of their sins still clings are found on the left hand, because they came not to the grace of God which is given through Christ at the new birth of Baptism: new birth I mean not of bodies, but the spiritual new birth of the soul. For our bodies are begotten by parents who are seen, but our souls are begotten anew through faith: *for the Spirit bloweth where it listeth*¹⁵ : and then, if thou be found worthy, thou mayest hear, *Well done, good and faithful servant*¹⁶ , when thou art found to have no defilement of hypocrisy in thy conscience.

3. For if any of those who are present should think to tempt God's grace, he deceives himself, and knows not its power. Keep thy soul free from hypocrisy, O man, because of Him *who searcheth hearts and reins*¹⁷ . For as those who are going to make a levy for war examine the ages and the bodies

¹The title prefixed to this Lecture is given in full. In the following Lectures the form will be abbreviated. See Index, ἀνάγνωσις and σχεδιασθεῖσα.

²[Is. i. 16.](#)

³[Ezek. xviii. 31.](#)

⁴[Luke xv. 7.](#)

⁵[Matt. xi. 28.](#)

⁶Compare xv. 25.

⁷[Is. i. 16.](#)

⁸[Ps. xxxii. 1.](#) See Procat. 15.

⁹Procat. 1, note 6.

¹⁰See Index, "Confession."

¹¹[Eph. iv. 22](#); [Col. iii. 10](#).

¹²[2 Cor. i. 22](#).

¹³[Luke xvi. 9](#).

¹⁴Compare xv. 25.

¹⁵[John iii. 8](#).

¹⁶[Matt. xxv. 21](#).

¹⁷[Ps. vii. 10](#).

7

of those who are taking service, so also the Lord in enlisting souls examines their purpose: and if any has a secret hypocrisy, He rejects the man as unfit for His true service; but if He finds one worthy, to him He readily gives His grace. He gives not holy things to the dogs¹; but where He discerns the good conscience, there He gives the Seal of salvation, that wondrous Seal, which devils tremble at, and Angels recognise; that the one may be driven to flight, and the others may watch around it as kindred to themselves. Those therefore who receive this spiritual and saving Seal, have need also of the disposition akin to it. For as a writing-reed or a dart has need of one to use it, so grace also has need of believing minds.

4. Thou art receiving not a perishable but a spiritual shield. Henceforth thou art planted in the invisible² Paradise. Thou receivest a new name, which thou hadst not before. Heretofore thou wast a Catechumen, but now thou wilt be called a Believer. Thou art transplanted henceforth among the spiritual³ olive-trees, being grafted from the wild into the good olive-tree⁴, from sins into righteousness, from pollutions into purity. Thou art made partaker of the Holy Vine⁵. Well then, if thou abide in the Vine, thou growest as a fruitful branch; but if thou abide not, thou wilt be consumed by the fire. Let us therefore bear fruit worthily. God forbid that in us should be done what befell that barren fig-tree⁶, that Jesus come not even now and curse us for our barrenness. But may all be able to use that other saying, *But I am like a fruitful olive-tree in the house of God: I have trusted in the mercy of God for ever*⁷,—an olive-tree not to be perceived by sense, but by the mind⁸, and full of light. As then it is His part to plant and to water⁹, so it is thine to bear fruit: it is God's to grant grace, but thine to receive and guard it. Despise not the grace because it is freely given, but receive and treasure it devoutly.

5. The present is the season of confession: confess what thou hast done in word or in deed, by night or by day; *confess in an acceptable time, and in the day of salvation*¹⁰ receive the heavenly treasure. Devote thy time to the Exorcisms: be assiduous at the Catechisings, and remember the things that shall be spoken, for they are spoken not for thine ears only, but that by faith thou mayest seal them up in the memory. Blot out from thy mind all earthly¹¹ care: for thou art running for thy soul. Thou art utterly forsaking the things of the world: little are the things which thou art forsaking, great what the Lord is giving. Forsake things present, and put thy trust in things to come. Hast thou run so many circles of the years busied in vain about the world, and hast thou not forty days to be free (for prayer¹²), for thine own soul's sake? *Be still*¹³, and *know that I am God*, saith the Scripture. Excuse thyself from talking many idle words: neither backbite, nor lend a willing ear to backbiters; but rather be prompt to prayer. Shew in ascetic exercise that thy heart is nerved¹⁴. Cleanse thy vessel, that thou mayest receive grace more abundantly. For though remission of sins is given equally to all, the communion of the Holy Ghost is

bestowed in proportion to each man's faith. If thou hast laboured little, thou receivest little; but if thou hast wrought much, the reward is great. Thou art running for thyself, see to thine own interest.

6. If thou hast aught against any man, forgive it: thou comest here to receive forgiveness of sins, and thou also must forgive him that hath sinned against thee. Else with what face wilt thou say to the Lord, Forgive me my many sins, if thou hast not thyself forgiven thy fellow-servant even his little sins. Attend diligently the Church assemblies¹⁵; not only now when diligent attendance is required of thee by the Clergy, but also after thou hast received the grace. For if, before thou hast received it, the practice is good, is it not also good after the bestowal? If before thou be grafted in, it is a safe course to be watered and tended, is it not far better after the planting? Wrestle for thine own soul, especially in such days as these. Nourish thy soul with sacred readings; for the Lord hath prepared for thee a spiritual table; therefore say thou also after the Psalmist, *The Lord is my shepherd, and I shall lack nothing: in a place of grass, there hath He made me rest; He hath fed me beside the waters of comfort, He hath converted my soul*¹⁶:—that Angels also may share your joy, and Christ Himself the great High Priest, having accepted your resolve, may present you all to the Father, saying, *Behold, I and the children whom God hath given Me*¹⁷. May He keep you all well-pleasing in His sight! To whom be the glory, and the power unto the endless ages of eternity. Amen.

¹[Matt. vii. 6.](#)

²Gr. νοητόν, i.e. the true Paradise, to be seen by the mind, not by the eye. [Rev. 12.7,17.](#)

³See preceding note.

⁴[Rom. xi. 24.](#)

⁵[John xv. 1, 4, 5.](#)

⁶[Matt. xxi. 19.](#)

⁷[Ps. lii. 10.](#)

⁸νοητή, see note 1, above.

⁹[1 Cor. iii. 6.](#) When Paul plants and Apollos waters, it is God Himself who works through His ministers.

¹⁰[2 Cor. vi. 2.](#)

¹¹Literally "human."

¹²Some MSS. omit τῇ προσευχῇ after σχολάζεις.

¹³[Ps. xlv. 10](#): σχολάσατε. Compare Procat. 13.

¹⁴Compare Procat. 17: xviii. 1.

¹⁵See Index, σύναξις.

¹⁶[Ps. xxiii. 1-3.](#)

¹⁷[Is. viii. 18](#); [Heb. ii. 13.](#)

Lecture II.

On Repentance and Remission of Sins, and Concerning the Adversary.

EZEKIEL XVIII. 20-23

The righteousness of the righteous shall be upon him, and the wickedness of the wicked shall be upon him. But if the wicked will turn from all his sins, &c.

1. A FEARFUL thing is sin, and the sorest disease of the soul is transgression, secretly cutting its sinews, and becoming also the cause of eternal fire; an evil of a man's own choosing, an offspring of the will.¹ For that we sin of our own free will the Prophet says plainly in a certain place: *Yet I planted thee a fruitful vine, wholly true: how art thou turned to bitterness, (and become) the strange vine*²? The planting was good, the fruit coming from the will is evil; and therefore the planter is blameless, but the vine shall be burnt with fire since it was planted for good, and bore fruit unto evil of its own will. *For God, according to the Preacher, made man upright, and they have themselves sought out many inventions*³. *For we are His workmanship, says the Apostle, created unto good works, which God afore prepared, that we should walk in them*⁴. So then the Creator, being good, created for good works; but the creature turned of its own free will to wickedness. Sin then is, as we have said, a fearful evil, but not incurable; fearful for him who clings to it, but easy of cure for him who by repentance puts it from him. For suppose that a man is holding fire in his hand; as long as he holds fast the live coal he is sure to be burned, but should he put away the coal, he would have cast away the flame also with it. If however any one thinks that he is not being burned when sinning, to him the Scripture saith, *Shall a man wrap up fire in his bosom, and not burn his clothes*⁵? For sin burns the sinews of the soul, [and breaks the spiritual bones of the mind, and darkens the light of the heart⁶].

2. But some one will say, What can sin be? Is it a living thing? Is it an angel? Is it a demon? What is this which works within us? It is not an enemy, O man, that assails thee from without, but an evil shoot growing up out of thyself. *Look right on with thine eyes*⁷, and there is no lust. [Keep thine own, and⁸] seize not the things of others, and robbery has ceased⁹. Remember the Judgment, and neither fornication, nor adultery, nor murder, nor any transgression of the law shall prevail with thee. But whenever thou forgettest God, forthwith thou beginnest to devise wickedness and to commit iniquity.

3. Yet thou art not the sole author of the evil, but there is also another most wicked prompter, the devil. He indeed suggests, but does not get the mastery by force over those who do not consent. Therefore saith the Preacher, *If the spirit of him that hath power rise up against thee, quit not thy place*¹⁰. Shut thy door, and put him far from thee, and he shall not hurt thee. But if thou indifferently admit the thought of lust, it strikes root in thee by its suggestions, and enthrals thy mind, and drags thee down into a pit of evils.

But perhaps thou sayest, I am a believer, and lust does not gain the ascendant over me, even if I think upon it frequently. Knowest thou not that a root breaks even a rock by long persistence? Admit not the seed, since it will rend thy faith asunder: tear out the evil by the root before it blossom, lest from being careless at the beginning thou have afterwards to seek for axes and fire. When thine eyes begin to be diseased, get them cured in good time, lest thou become blind, and then have to seek the physician.

4. The devil then is the first author of sin, and the father of the wicked: and this is the Lord's saying, not mine, *that the devil sinneth*

¹For references to Cyril's doctrine of Free-will, see Index, "Soul."

²Jer. ii. 21.

³[Eccles. vii. 29.](#)

⁴[Eph. ii. 10.](#)

⁵[Prov. vi. 27.](#)

⁶Milles and the Benedictine Editor omit these clauses, but the more recent editions of Reischl and Alexandrides insert them on the authority of Munich, Jerusalem, and other good MSS.

⁷[Prov. iv. 25.](#)

⁸Omitted by recent editors with the best MSS.

⁹Gr. κεκοίμηται “has fallen asleep.”

¹⁰[Eccles. x. 4.](#) Compare [Eph. iv. 27](#): “Neither give place to the devil.”

9

from the beginning¹: none sinned before him. But he sinned, not as having received necessarily from nature the propensity to sin, since then the cause of sin is traced back again to Him that made him so; but having been created good, he has of his own free will become a devil, and received that name from his action. For being an Archangel² he was afterwards called a devil from his slandering: from being a good servant of God he has become rightly named Satan; for “Satan” is interpreted *the adversary*³. And this is not my teaching, but that of the inspired prophet Ezekiel: for he takes up a lamentation over him and says, *Thou wast a seal of likeness, and a crown of beauty; in the Paradise of God wast thou born*⁴: and soon after, *Thou wast born blameless in thy days, from the day in which thou wast created, until thine iniquities were found in thee*. Very rightly hath he said, *were found in thee*; for they were not brought in from without, but thou didst thyself beget the evil. The cause also he mentions forthwith: *Thine heart was lifted up because of thy beauty: for the multitude of thy sins wast thou wounded, and I did cast thee to the ground*. In agreement with this the Lord says again in the Gospels: *I beheld Satan as lightning fall from heaven*⁵. Thou seest the harmony of the Old Testament with the New. He when cast out drew many away with him. It is he that puts lusts into them that listen to him: from him come adultery, fornication, and every kind of evil. Through him our forefather Adam was cast out for disobedience, and exchanged a Paradise bringing forth wondrous fruits of its own accord for the ground which bringeth forth thorns.

5. What then? some one will say. We have been beguiled and are lost. Is there then no salvation left? We have fallen: Is it not possible to rise again? We have been blinded: May we not recover our sight? We have become crippled: Can we never walk upright? In a word, we are dead: May we not rise again? He that woke Lazarus who was four days dead and already stank, shall He not, O man, much more easily raise thee who art alive? He who shed His precious blood for us, shall Himself deliver us from sin. Let us not despair of ourselves, brethren; let us not abandon ourselves to a hopeless condition. For it is a fearful thing not to believe in a hope of repentance. For he that looks not for salvation spares not to add evil to evil: but to him that hopes for cure, it is henceforth easy to be careful over himself. The robber who looks not for pardon grows desperate; but, if he hopes for forgiveness, often comes to repentance. What then, does the serpent cast its slough⁶, and shall not we cast off our sin? Thorny ground also, if cultivated well, is turned into fruitful; and is salvation to us irrecoverable? Nay rather, our nature admits of salvation, but the will also is required.

6. God is loving to man, and loving in no small measure. For say not, I have committed fornication and adultery: I have done dreadful things, and not once only, but often: will He forgive? Will He grant pardon? Hear what the Psalmist says: *How great is the multitude of Thy goodness, O Lord*⁷! Thine accumulated offences surpass not the multitude of God’s mercies: thy wounds surpass not the great Physician’s skill. Only give thyself up in faith: tell the Physician thine ailment: say thou also, like David: *I said, I will confess me my sin unto the Lord*: and the same shall be done in thy case, which he says forthwith: *And thou forgavest the wickedness of my heart*⁸.

7. Wouldest thou see the loving-kindness of God, O thou that art lately come to the catechising? Wouldest thou see the loving-kindness of God, and the abundance of His long-suffering? Hear about Adam. Adam, God’s first-

formed man, transgressed: could He not at once have brought death upon him? But see what the Lord does, in His great love towards man. He casts him out from Paradise, for because of sin he was unworthy to live there; but He *puts him to dwell over against Paradise*⁹: that seeing whence he had fallen, and from what and into what a state he was brought down, he might afterwards be saved by repentance. Cain the first-born man became his brother's murderer, the inventor of evils, the first author of murders, and the first envious man. Yet after slaying his brother to what is he condemned? *Groaning and trembling shalt thou be upon the earth*¹⁰. How great the offence, the sentence how light!

8. Even this then was truly loving-kindness in God, but little as yet in comparison with what follows. For consider what happened in the days of Noe. The giants sinned, and

¹[John iii. 8; John viii. 44.](#)

²On Cyril's doctrine of the Angels, see Index, "Angels."

³[1 Kings v. 4](#), &c.

⁴[Ezek. xxviii. 12-17](#), an obscure passage, addressed to the Prince of Tyre, and meaning that he was "the perfect pattern" of earthly glory, set in a condition like that of Adam in Paradise, and, seemingly, blameless as Adam before his fall. Cyril seems to regard the Prince of Tyre as an embodiment of Satan, because he was deified as the object of national worship: [Ezek. 28.1,2](#), "Thou hast said, I am a God, I sit in the seat of God."

⁵[Luke x. 18.](#)

⁶Literally, "its old age" (τὸ γῆρας). Compare iii. 7, and Dict. Chr. Biogr., *Macarius*, p. 770 a.

⁷[Ps. xxxi. 20.](#)

⁸[Ps. xxxii. 5.](#)

⁹This is the reading of the Septuagint instead of—"He placed at the east of the garden of Eden."

¹⁰[Gen. iv. 12](#): "A fugitive and a vagabond shalt thou be upon the earth."

10

much wickedness was then spread over the earth, and because of this the flood was to come upon them: and in the five hundredth year God utters His threatening; but in the six hundredth He brought the flood upon the earth. Seest thou the breadth of God's loving-kindness extending to a hundred years? Could He not have done immediately what He did then after the hundred years? But He extended (the time) on purpose, granting a respite for repentance. Seest thou God's goodness? And if the men of that time had repented, they would not have missed the loving-kindness of God.

9. Come with me now to the other class, those who were saved by repentance. But perhaps even among women some one will say, I have committed fornication, and adultery, I have defiled my body by excesses of all kinds: is there salvation for me? Turn thine eyes, O woman, upon Rahab, and look thou also for salvation; for if she who had been openly and publicly a harlot was saved by repentance, is not she who on some one occasion before receiving grace committed fornication to be saved by repentance and fasting? For inquire how she was saved: this only she said: *For your God is God in heaven and upon earth*¹. *Your God*; for her own she did not dare to say, because of her wanton life. And if you wish to receive Scriptural testimony of her having been saved, you have it written in the Psalms: *I will make mention of Rahab and Babylon among them that know me*². O the greatness of God's loving-kindness, making mention even of harlots in the Scriptures: nay, not simply *I will make mention of Rahab and Babylon*, but with the addition, *among them that know me*. There is then in the case both of men and of women alike the salvation which is ushered in by repentance.

10. Nay more, if a whole people sin, this surpasses not the loving-kindness of God. The people made a calf, yet God ceased not from His loving-kindness. Men denied God, but God denied not Himself³. *These be thy gods, O Israel*⁴, they said: yet again, as He was wont, the God of Israel became their Saviour. And not only the people sinned, but also Aaron the High Priest. For it is Moses that says: *And the anger of the Lord came upon Aaron: and I prayed for him, saith he, and God forgave him*⁵. What then, did Moses praying for a High Priest that sinned prevail with God, and shall not Jesus, His Only-begotten, prevail with God when He prays for us? And if He did not hinder Aaron, because of his offence, from entering upon the High Priesthood, will He hinder thee, who art come out from the Gentiles, from entering into salvation? Only, O man, repent thou also in like manner, and grace is not forbidden thee. Render thy way of life henceforth unblameable; for God is truly loving unto man, nor can all time⁶ worthily tell out His loving-kindness; nay, not if all the tongues of men unite together will they be able even so to declare any considerable part of His loving-kindness. For we tell some part of what is written concerning His loving-kindness to men, but how much He forgave the Angels we know not: for them also He forgives, since One alone is without sin, even Jesus who purgeth our sins. And of them we have said enough.

11. But if concerning us men thou wilt have other examples also set before thee⁷, come on to the blessed David, and take him for an example of repentance. Great as he was, he fell: after his sleep, walking in the eventide on the housetop, he cast a careless look, and felt a human passion. His sin was completed, but there died not with it his candour concerning the confession of his fault. Nathan the Prophet came, a swift accuser, and a healer of the wound. *The Lord is wroth, he says, and thou hast sinned*⁸. So spake the subject to the reigning king. But David the king⁹ was not indignant, for he regarded not the speaker, but God who had sent him. He was not puffed up¹⁰ by the array of soldiers standing round: for he had seen in thought the angel-host of the Lord, and he trembled as *seeing Him who is invisible*¹¹; and to the messenger, or rather by him in answer to God who sent him, he said, *I have sinned against the Lord*¹². Seest thou the humility of the king? Seest thou his confession? For had he been convicted by any one? Were many privy to the matter? The deed was quickly done, and straightway the Prophet appeared as accuser, and the offender confesses the fault. And because he candidly confessed, he received a most speedy cure. For Nathan the Prophet who had uttered the threat, said immediately, *The Lord also hath put away thy sin*. Thou seest the swift relenting of a merciful God. He says, however, *Thou hast greatly provoked the enemies of the*

¹[Josh. ii. 11.](#)

²[Ps. lxxxvii. 4.](#) "Rahab" is there a poetical name of Egypt, and the passage has nothing to do with Rahab the harlot. The Benedictine Editor rightly disregards S. Jerome's suggestion, that Rahab is, like Egypt, a type of the Gentile Church.

³[2 Tim. ii. 13.](#)

⁴[Ex. xxxii. 4.](#)

⁵[Deut. ix. 20.](#)

⁶For "all time," the reading of the best mss., the Benedictine text has "all mankind."

⁷The Benedictine has, "But if thou wilt I will set before thee other examples also of our state? Come on to the blessed David."

⁸[2 Sam. xii.](#)

⁹Bened. "The king, the wearer of the purple."

¹⁰Bened. "blinded."

¹¹[Heb. xi. 27.](#)

¹²[2 Sam. xii. 13.](#)

Lord. Though thou hadst many enemies because of thy righteousness, thy self-control protected thee; but now that thou hast surrendered thy strongest armour, thine enemies are risen up, and stand ready against thee.

12. Thus then did the Prophet comfort him, but the blessed David, for all he heard it said, *The LORD hath put away thy sin*, did not cease from repentance, king though he was, but put on sackcloth instead of purple, and instead of a golden throne, he sat, a king, in ashes on the ground; nay, not only sat in ashes, but also had ashes for his food, even as he saith himself, *I have eaten ashes as it were bread*¹. His lustful eye he wasted away with tears saying, *Every night will I wash my couch, and water my bed with my tears*². When his officers besought him to eat bread he would not listen. He prolonged his fast unto seven whole days. If a king thus made confession oughtest not thou, a private person, to confess? Again, after Absalom's insurrection, though there were many roads for him to escape, he chose to flee by the Mount of Olives, in thought, as it were, invoking the Redeemer who was to go up thence into the heavens³. And when Shimei cursed him bitterly, he said, *Let him alone*, for he knew that "to him that forgiveth it shall be forgiven"⁴.

13. Thou seest that it is good to make confession. Thou seest that there is salvation for them that repent. Solomon also fell but what saith he? *Afterwards I repented*⁵. Ahab, too, the King of Samaria, became a most wicked idolater, an outrageous man, the murderer of the Prophets⁶, a stranger to godliness, a coveter of other men's fields and vineyards. Yet when by Jezebel's means he had slain Naboth, and the Prophet Elias came and merely threatened him, he rent his garments, and put on sackcloth. And what saith the merciful God to Elias? *Hast thou seen how Ahab is pricked in the heart before Me*⁷? as if almost He would persuade the fiery zeal of the Prophet to condescend to the penitent. For He saith, *I will not bring the evil in his days*. And though after this forgiveness he was sure not to depart from his wickedness, nevertheless the forgiving God forgave him, not as being ignorant of the future, but as granting a forgiveness corresponding to his present season of repentance. For it is the part of a righteous judge to give sentence according to each case that has occurred.

14. Again, Jeroboam was standing at the altar sacrificing to the idols: his hand became withered, because he commanded the Prophet who reprov'd him to be seized: but having by experience learned the power of the man before him, he says, *Entreat the face of the Lord thy God*⁸; and because of this saying his hand was restored again. If the Prophet healed Jeroboam, is Christ not able to heal and deliver thee from thy sins? Manasses also was utterly wicked, who sawed Isaiah asunder⁹, and was defiled with all kinds of idolatries, and *filled Jerusalem with innocent blood*¹⁰; but having been led captive to Babylon he used his experience of misfortune for a healing course of repentance: for the Scripture saith that Manasses *humbled himself before the Lord, and prayed, and the Lord heard him, and brought him back to his kingdom*. If He who sawed the Prophet asunder was saved by repentance, shall not thou then, having done no such great wickedness, be saved?

15. Take heed lest without reason thou mistrust the power of repentance. Wouldst thou know what power repentance has? Wouldst thou know the strong weapon of salvation, and learn what the force of confession is? Hezekiah by means of confession routed a hundred and fourscore and five thousand of his enemies. A great thing verily was this, but still small in comparison with what remains to be told: the same king by repentance obtained the recall of a divine sentence which had already gone forth. For when he had fallen sick, Esaias said to him, *Set thine house in order; for thou shalt die, and not live*¹¹. What expectation remained, what hope of recovery, when the Prophet said, *for thou shalt die*? Yet Hezekiah did not desist from repentance; but remembering what is written, *When thou shalt turn and lament, then shalt thou be saved*¹², he turned to the wall, and from his bed lifting his mind to heaven (for thickness of walls is no hindrance to prayers sent up with devotion), he said, "Remember me, O Lord, for it is sufficient for my healing that Thou remember me. Thou art not subject to times, but art Thyself the giver of the law of life. For our life depends not on a

¹Ps. cii. 10.

²Psa. 7.7.

³2 Sam. xvi. 10, 11.

⁴Resch. (*Agapha*, p. 137) quotes various forms of this saying from early writers, and regards it as a fragment of an

extracanonical Gospel. But see Lightfoot, *Clem. Rom.* c. xiii.

⁵[Prov. xxiv. 32](#), Sept. Heb. "Set my heart." The passage has no reference to repentance: it means, "I considered the field of the slothful." Hilary, [Ps. lii.](#); Ambrose, *Apolog.* 1, *Prophetæ David*, c. iii. and other Fathers affirm the repentance of Solomon. Augustine (c. *Faustum*, Lib. xxii. c. 88) maintains that Scripture says nothing of his repentance or forgiveness. See Dante, *Paradiso*, *Canto* x. 109.

⁶[1 Kings xviii. 4](#).

⁷[1 Kings 21.29](#).

⁸[1 Kings xiii. 6](#).

⁹Justin Martyr, *Dialogue with Trypho*, § 120 charges the Jews with having cut out a passage referring to the death of Isaiah. Theophylact commenting on [Heb. xi. 37](#), says: "They were sawn asunder, as Isaiah by Manasses: and they say that he was sawn with a wooden saw, that his punishment might be the more painful to him from being prolonged." Jerome on [Is. i. 10](#), says that he was slain because of his calling the Jews "princes of Sodom and people of Gomorra," and because he said, "I saw the Lord sitting upon a throne, high and lifted up."

¹⁰[2 Chron. xxxiii. 12, 13](#).

¹¹[2 Kings xx. 1](#).

¹²[Is. xxx. 15](#).

12

nativity, nor on a conjunction of stars, as some idly talk; but both of life and its duration. Then art Thyself the Lawgiver according to Thy Will." And he, who could not hope to live because of the prophetic sentence, had fifteen years added to his life, and for the sign the sun ran backward in his course. Well then, for Ezekias' sake the sun turned back but for Christ the sun was eclipsed, not retracing his steps, but suffering eclipse¹, and therefore shewing the difference between them, I mean between Ezekias and Jesus. The former prevailed to the cancelling of God's decree, and cannot Jesus grant remission of sins? Turn and bewail thyself, shut thy door, and pray to be forgiven, pray that He may remove from thee the burning flames. For confession has power to quench even fire, power to tame even lions².

16. But if thou disbelieve, consider what befel Ananias and his companions. What streams did they pour out³? How many vessels⁴ of water could quench the flame that rose up forty-nine cubits high⁵? Nay, but where the flame mounted up a little⁶ too high, faith was there poured out as a river, and there spake they the spell against all ills⁷: *Righteous art Thou, O Lord, in all the things that Thou hast done to us: for we have sinned, and transgressed Thy law*⁸. And their repentance quelled the flames⁹. If thou believest not that repentance is able to quench the fire of hell, learn it from what happened in regard to Ananias¹⁰. But some keen hearer will say, Those men God rescued justly in that case: because they refused to commit idolatry, God gave them that power. And since this thought has occurred, I come next to a different example of penitence¹¹.

17. What thinkest thou of Nabuchodonosor? Hast thou not heard out of the Scriptures that he was bloodthirsty, fierce¹², lion-like in disposition? Hast thou not heard that he brought out the bones of the kings from their graves into the light¹³? Hast thou not heard¹⁴ that he carried the people away captive? Hast thou not heard that he put out the eyes of the king, after he had already seen his children slain¹⁵? Hast thou not heard that he brake in pieces¹⁶ the Cherubim? I do not mean the invisible¹⁷ beings;—away with such a thought, O man¹⁸,—but the sculptured images, and the mercy-seat, in the midst of which God spake with His voice¹⁹. The veil of the Sanctuary²⁰ he trampled under foot: the altar of incense he took and carried away to an idol-temple²¹: all the offerings he took away: the Temple he burned from the foundations²². How great punishments did he deserve, for slaying kings, for setting fire to the Sanctuary, for taking the people captive, for setting the sacred vessels in the house of idols? Did he not deserve ten thousand deaths?

18. Thou hast seen the greatness of his evil deeds: come now to God's loving-kindness. He was turned into a wild beast²³, he abode in the wilderness, he was scourged, that he might be saved. He had claws as a lion²⁴; for he was a ravager of the Sanctuary. He had a lion's mane: for he was a ravening and a roaring lion. He ate grass like an ox: for a brute beast he was, not knowing Him who had given him the kingdom. His body was wet from the dew; because after seeing the fire quenched by the dew he believed not²⁵. And what happened²⁶? *After this, saith he, I, Nabuchodonosor, lifted up*

¹[Isaiah xxxviii. 8.](#)

²From this point the MSS. differ so widely that the Benedictine Editor gives two complete recensions of the whole Lecture. The Codd. Coislin, Ottob. 2, and Grodec, with the editions of Prevot and Milles, forming as it were one family of MSS., constitute the received text. On the other hand the older Munich Codex, with Codd. Roe and Casaubon, exhibit a recension of the Lecture differing from the editions. Reischl wishing to retain the received text unaltered, though preferring the other in particular passages, intended to append the other recension complete, but having left his work half finished, failed to do so. The chief variations are given in the following notes.

³Roe and Casaubon (R.C.) add: "into the furnace of fire."

⁴R.C. "What measure."

⁵Song of Three Children 24.

⁶R.C. "Much."

⁷R.C. "A great stream of repentance was poured forth, when they said, For Thou art righteous," &c.

⁸Song of Three Children 4.

⁹R.C. "Did then repentance quench the flames of the furnace, and dost thou disbelieve that it is able also to quench the fire of hell?"

¹⁰The Gospel only says, "There was darkness over all the land." An eclipse of the sun was impossible at the time of the Paschal full moon.

¹¹R.C. "That the narrative is not appropriate to those who are here present. For it was because Ananias and his companions refused to worship the idol, that God gave them that marvellous power. Adapting myself, therefore, to such a hearer, and looking to the profusion of instances, I come next to a different example of repentance."

¹²R.C. "most impious, and most fierce in temper."

¹³[Jer. viii. 1](#); [Baruch ii. 25](#).

¹⁴"Knowest thou not..."

¹⁵[2 Kings xxv. 7](#).

¹⁶R.C. "carried off."

¹⁷νοητά. R.C. add "and heavenly."

¹⁸Omitted by R.C.

¹⁹R.C. "But those which had been constructed in the Temple, which were over the mercy-seat of the Ark." Besides

the two Cherubim of solid gold which Moses placed on the two ends of the Mercy-seat ([Ex. xxxvii. 7](#) ff.), Solomon set “within the oracle” two Cherubim of olive wood overlaid with gold, ten feet high with outstretched wings overshadowing the Ark ([1 Kings vi. 23-26](#); [viii. 6, 7](#)). All these were either carried off or destroyed, when Nebuchadnezzar took away “all the treasures of the house of the Lord” and “cut in pieces all the vessels of gold which Solomon, King of Israel, had made in the Temple of the Lord” ([2 Kings xxiv. 13](#); [1 Esdras i. 54](#); [2 Esdras x. 22](#)). The Benedictine editor is concerned because Cyril has paid no attention to the strange fiction in [2 Maccabees ii. 4](#) that Jeremy the Prophet “commanded the Tabernacle and the Ark to go with him” to Mount Horeb, and there hid them, with the Altar of Incense, in a hollow cave, to remain “unknown until the time that God gathers His people again together.”

²⁰The Greek word rendered “Sanctuary” is ἡ ἁγιωσύνη, literally “the holiness.”

²¹[2 Chron. xxxvi. 7](#).

²²R.C. “The veil of the Sanctuary he tore down, he overturned the altar, and took all the vessels and carried them away to an idol temple. The Temple itself he burned.”

²³R.C. Afterwards he was turned into a wild beast: “he who was like a wild beast and most cruel in disposition; but he was turned into a wild beast, not that he might perish, but that by repentance he might be saved.”

²⁴R.C. “of birds.” See [Dan. iv. 33](#).

²⁵R.C. “after the midst of the furnace had become to Ananias and his companions as the tinkling breath of rain, he saw and believed not.”

²⁶R.C. “But afterwards he came to his senses and repented, as he says himself.”

13

mine eyes unto heaven, and I blessed the Most High, and to Him that liveth for ever I gave praise and glory¹.

When, therefore, he recognised the Most High², and sent up these words of thankfulness to God, and repented himself for what he had done, and recognised his own weakness, then God gave back to him the honour of the kingdom.

19. What then³? When Nabuchodonosor, after having done such deeds, had made confession, did God give him pardon and the kingdom, and when thou repentest shall He not give thee the remission of sins, and the kingdom of heaven, if thou live a worthy life? The LORD is loving unto man, and swift to pardon, but slow to punish. Let no man therefore despair of his own salvation. Peter, the chiefest and foremost of the Apostles, denied the Lord thrice before a little maid: but he repented himself, and wept bitterly. Now weeping shews the repentance of the heart: and therefore he not only received forgiveness for his denial, but also held his Apostolic dignity unforfeited.

20. Having therefore, brethren, many examples of those who have sinned and repented and been saved, do ye also heartily make confession unto the Lord, that ye may both receive the forgiveness of your former sins, and be counted worthy of the heavenly gift, and inherit the heavenly kingdom with all the saints in Christ Jesus; to Whom is the glory for ever and ever. Amen⁴.

¹[Dan. iv. 34](#).

²R.C. “And after he had been scourged many years, he gave praise to Him that liveth for ever, and acknowledged Him that had given him the kingdom, and recognised the King of kings. And though he had often sinned in deeds, on making confession only in words, he received the benefit of God’s unspeakable loving kindness. He who was of all men most wicked, by the Divine judgment and loving-kindness of God who chastised him, crowned himself again with the royal diadem, and recovered his imperial throne.”

³R.C. "If then there is present among you any from among the Heathen who has ever spoken evil against Christians, or in times of persecution plotted against the Holy Churches, let him take Nabuchodonsor as an example of salvation: let him confess in like manner, that he may also find the like forgiveness. If any has been defiled by lust and passions, let him take up the repentance of the blessed David: if any has denied like Peter, let him die like him for the sake of the Lord Jesus. For He who to his tears begrudged not the Apostleship, will not refuse thee the gospel mysteries. And for women let Rahab be a pattern unto salvation, and for men the manifold examples mentioned of the men of old times.

⁴R.C. "And be ye all of good hope, having regard to the lovingkindness of God; not that we may fall back into the same sins, but that having had the benefit of redemption, and lived in a manner worthy of His grace, we may be able to blot out the handwriting that is against us by good works; in the power of the Only-begotten, the Son of God, and our Lord Jesus Christ, with whom be glory to the Father, with the Holy Ghost, both now and ever, and unto all the ages of eternity. Amen."

14

Lecture III.

On Baptism.

ROMANS VI. 3, 4

Or know ye not that all we who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death? were buried therefore with Him by our baptism into death, &c.

1. *Rejoice, ye heavens, and let the earth be glad*¹, for those who are to be sprinkled with hyssop, and cleansed with the spiritual² hyssop, the power of Him to whom at His Passion drink was offered on hyssop and a reed³. And while the Heavenly Powers rejoice, let the souls that are to be united to the spiritual Bridegroom make themselves ready. For *the voice is heard of one crying in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the Lord*⁴. For this is no light matter, no ordinary and indiscriminate union according to the flesh⁵, but the All-searching Spirit's election according to faith. For the inter-marriages and contracts of the world are not made altogether with judgment: but wherever there is wealth or beauty, there the bridegroom speedily approves: but here it is not beauty of person, but the soul's clear conscience; not the condemned Mammon, but the wealth of the soul in godliness.

2. Listen then, O ye children of righteousness, to John's exhortation when he says, *Make straight the way of the Lord*. Take away all obstacles and stumbling-blocks, that ye may walk straight onward to eternal life. Make ready the vessels⁶ of the soul, cleansed by unfeigned faith, for reception of the Holy Ghost. Begin at once to wash your robes in repentance, that when called to the bride-chamber ye may be found clean. For the Bridegroom invites all without distinction, because His grace is bounteous; and the cry of loud-voiced heralds assembles them all: but the same Bridegroom afterwards separates those who have come in to the figurative marriage. O may none of those whose names have now been enrolled hear the words, *Friend, how camest thou in hither, not having a wedding garment*⁷? But may you all hear, *Well done, good and faithful servant; thou wast faithful over a few things, I will set thee over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy lord*⁸.

For now meanwhile thou standest outside the door: but God grant that you all may say, *The King hath brought me into His chamber*⁹. *Let my soul rejoice in the Lord: for He hath clothed me with a garment of salvation, and a robe of gladness: He hath crowned me with a garland as a bridegroom*¹⁰, and decked me with ornaments as a bride: that the soul of every one of you may be found *not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing*¹¹; I do not mean before you have received the grace, for how could that be? since it is for remission of sins that ye have been called; but that, when the grace is to be given, your conscience being found uncondemned may concur with the grace.

3. This is in truth a serious matter, brethren, and you must approach it with good heed. Each one of you is about

to be presented to God before tens of thousands of the Angelic Hosts: the Holy Ghost is about to seal¹² your souls: ye are to be enrolled in the army of the Great King. Therefore make you ready, and equip yourselves, by putting on I mean, not bright apparel¹³, but piety of soul with a good conscience. Regard not the Laver as simple water, but rather regard the spiritual grace that is given with the water. For just as the offerings brought to the heathen altars¹⁴, though simple in their nature, become defiled by the invocation of the idols¹⁵, so contrariwise

¹[Ps. xcvi. 11.](#)

²The invisible or spiritual (νοητός) hyssop is the cleansing power of the Holy Ghost in Baptism. Compare [Ps. li. 7.](#)

³S. Cyril here, and still more emphatically in xiii. 39, distinguishes the hyssop ([John xix. 29](#)) from the reed ([Matt. xxvii. 48](#)), implying that the sponge filled with vinegar was bound round with hyssop, and then fixed on a reed. Another opinion is that the reed itself was that of hyssop. See Dictionary of the Bible, "Hyssop."

⁴[Is. xl. 3.](#)

⁵σωμάτων.

⁶So in § 15, the soul is regarded as a vessel for receiving grace.

⁷[Matt. xxii. 12.](#)

⁸[Matt. xxv. 12.](#)

⁹[Song of Sol. 1.4.](#)

¹⁰[Is. lxi. 10.](#) Compare [Song of Sol. 3.11](#): *Go forth, O ye daughters of Zion, and behold King Solomon, with the crown wherewith his mother hath crowned him in the day of his espousals.* In the passage of Isaiah the bridegroom's crown is likened to the priestly mitre.

¹¹[Eph. v. 7.](#)

¹²See Index, "Seal."

¹³Index, "White."

¹⁴βωμοῖς used of heathen altars only, in Septuagint and N.T.

¹⁵Both here and in xix. 7, Cyril speaks of things offered to idols just as S. Paul in [1 Cor. x. 20](#). The Benediction of the water of Baptism is found in the *Apostolic Constitutions*, vii. 43: "Look down from heaven, and sanctify this water, and give it grace and power, that so he that is to be baptized according to the command of Thy Christ, may be crucified with Him, and may die with Him, and be buried with Him, and may rise with him to the adoption which is in him, that he may be dead to sin and live to righteousness."

15

the simple water having received the invocation of the Holy Ghost, and of Christ, and of the Father, acquires a new power of holiness.

4. For since man is of twofold nature, soul and body, the purification also is twofold, the one incorporeal for the incorporeal part, and the other bodily for the body: the water cleanses the body, and the Spirit seals the soul; that we may draw near unto God, *having our heart sprinkled by the Spirit, and our body washed with pure water*¹. When going down, therefore, into the water, think not of the bare element, but look for salvation by the power of the

Holy Ghost: for without both thou canst not possibly be made perfect². It is not I that say this, but the Lord Jesus Christ, who has the power in this matter: for He saith, *Except a man be born anew* (and He adds the words) *of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God*³. Neither doth he that is baptized with water, but not found worthy of the Spirit, receive the grace in perfection; nor if a man be virtuous in his deeds, but receive not the seal by water, shall he enter into the kingdom of heaven. A bold saying, but not mine, for it is Jesus who hath declared it: and here is the proof of the statement from Holy Scripture. Cornelius was a just man, who was honoured with a vision of Angels, and had set up his prayers and alms-deeds as a good memorial⁴ before God in heaven. Peter came, and the Spirit was poured out upon them that believed, and they spake with other tongues, and prophesied: and after the grace of the Spirit the Scripture saith that Peter *commanded them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ*⁵; in order that, the soul having been born again by faith⁶, the body also might by the water partake of the grace.

5. But if any one wishes to know why the grace is given by water and not by a different element, let him take up the Divine Scriptures and he shall learn. For water is a grand thing, and the noblest of the four visible elements of the world. Heaven is the dwelling-place of Angels, but the heavens are from the waters⁷: the earth is the place of men, but the earth is from the waters: and before the whole six days' formation of the things that were made, *the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the water*⁸. The water was the beginning of the world, and Jordan the beginning of the Gospel tidings: for Israel deliverance from Pharaoh was through the sea, and for the world deliverance from sins *by the washing of water with the word*⁹ of God. Where a covenant is made with any, there is water also. After the flood, a covenant was made with Noah: a covenant for Israel from Mount Sinai, but *with water, and scarlet wool, and hyssop*¹⁰. Elias is taken up, but not apart from water: for first he crosses the Jordan, then in a chariot mounts the heaven. The high-priest is first washed, then offers incense; for Aaron first washed, then was made high-priest: for how could one who had not yet been purified by water pray for the rest? Also as a symbol of Baptism there was a laver set apart within the Tabernacle.

6. Baptism is the end of the Old Testament, and beginning of the New. For its author was John, than whom was *none greater among them that are born of women*. The end he was of the Prophets: *for all the Prophets and the law were until John*¹¹: but of the Gospel history he was the first-fruit. For it saith, *The beginning of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, &c.: John came baptising in the wilderness*¹². You may mention Elias the Tishbite who was taken up into heaven, yet he is not greater than John: Enoch was translated, but he is not greater than John: Moses was a very great lawgiver, and all the Prophets were admirable, but not greater than John. It is not I that dare to compare Prophets with Prophets: but their Master and ours, the Lord Jesus, declared it: *Among them that are born of women there hath not risen a greater than John*¹³: He saith not "among them that are born of virgins," but *of women*¹⁴. The comparison is between the great servant and his fellow-servants: but the pre-eminence and the grace of the Son is beyond comparison with servants. Seest thou how great a man God chose as the first minister of this grace?—a man possessing nothing, and a lover of the desert, yet no hater of mankind: who ate locusts, and winged his soul for heaven¹⁵: feeding upon honey, and speaking things both sweeter and more salutary than honey: clothed with a garment of camel's hair, and shewing in himself the pattern of the ascetic life; who also was sanctified by the Holy Ghost while yet he was carried in his mother's womb. Jeremiah was sanctified, but

¹Heb. x. 22.

²See the note on "the twofold grace perfected by water and the Spirit," at the end of this Lecture.

³John iii. 3.

⁴στήλη, Sept. A pillar of stone, bearing an inscription, was a common form of memorial among the Israelites and other ancient nations. See Dictionary of the Bible, "Pillar."

⁵Acts x. 48.

⁶S. Cyril considers that Cornelius and his friends were regenerated, as the Apostles were, apart from Baptism; as August. *Serm.* 269, n. 2, and Chrysost. *in Act. Apost. Hom.* 25, seem to do. R.W.C.

⁷Compare ix. 5.

⁸[Gen. i. 2.](#)

⁹[Ephes. v. 26.](#)

¹⁰[Heb. ix. 19.](#)

¹¹[Matt. xi. 13.](#)

¹²[Mark i. 1, 4.](#)

¹³[Matt. xi. 11.](#)

¹⁴From the Clementine Recognitions, l. 54 and 60, we learn that there were some who asserted that John was the Christ, and not Jesus, inasmuch as Jesus Himself declared that John was greater than all men, and all Prophets. The answer is there given, that John was greater than all who are born of women, yet not greater than the Son of Man.

¹⁵The locust being winged suggest the idea of growing wings for the soul. [Is. xl. 31](#): *πτεροφυησουσιν ὡς ἀετοί.*

16

did not prophesy, in the womb¹: John alone while carried in the womb leaped for joy², and though he saw not with the eyes of flesh, knew his Master by the Spirit: for since the grace of Baptism was great, it required greatness in its founder also.

7. This man was baptizing in Jordan, and *there went out unto him all Jerusalem*³, to enjoy the first-fruits of baptisms: for in Jerusalem is the prerogative of all things good. But learn, O ye inhabitants of Jerusalem, how they that came out were baptized by him: *confessing their sins*, it is said⁴. First they shewed their wounds, then he applied the remedies, and to them that believed gave redemption from eternal fire. And if thou wilt be convinced of this very point, that the baptism of John is a redemption from the threat of the fire, hear how he says, *O generation of vipers, who hath warned you to flee from the wrath to come*⁵? *Be not then henceforth a viper, but as thou hast been formerly a viper's brood, put off, saith he, the slough*⁶ *of thy former sinful life. For every serpent creeps into a hole and casts its old slough, and having rubbed off the old skin, grows young again in body. In like manner enter thou also through the strait and narrow gate*⁷: rub off thy former self by fasting, and drive out that which is destroying thee. *Put off the old man with his doings*⁸, and quote that saying in the Canticles, *I have put off my coat, how shall I put it on*⁹?

But there is perhaps among you some hypocrite, a man-pleaser, and one who makes a pretence of piety, but believes not from the heart; having the hypocrisy of Simon Magus; one who has come hither not in order to receive of the grace, but to spy out what is given: let him also learn from John: *And now also the axe is laid unto the root of the trees, Every tree therefore that bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down, and cast into the fire*¹⁰. The Judge is inexorable; put away thine hypocrisy.

8. What then must you do? And what are the fruits of repentance? *Let him that hath two coats give to him that hath none*¹¹: the teacher was worthy of credit, since he was also the first to practise what he taught: he was not ashamed to speak, for conscience hindered not his tongue: *and he that hath meat, let him do likewise*. Wouldst thou enjoy the grace of the Holy Spirit, yet judgest the poor not worthy of bodily food? Seekest thou the great gifts, and impartest not of the small? Though thou be a publican, or a fornicator, have hope of salvation: *the publicans and the harlots go into the kingdom of God before you*¹². Paul also is witness, saying, *Neither fornicators, nor adulterers, nor the rest, shall inherit the kingdom of God. And such were some of you: but ye were washed, but ye were sanctified*¹³. He said not, *such are some of you*, but *such were some of you*. Sin committed in the state of ignorance is pardoned, but persistent wickedness is condemned.

9. Thou hast as the glory of Baptism the Son Himself, the Only-begotten of God. For why should I speak any more of man? John was great, but what is he to the Lord? His was a loud-sounding voice, but what in comparison with the Word? Very noble was the herald, but what in comparison with the King? Noble was he that baptized with

water, but what to Him that baptizeth *with the Holy Ghost and with fire*¹⁴? The Saviour baptized the Apostles with the Holy Ghost and with fire, when *suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of the rushing of a mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire: and it sat upon each one of them, and they were all filled with the Holy Ghost*¹⁵.

10. If any man receive not Baptism, he hath not salvation; except only Martyrs, who even without the water receive the kingdom. For when the Saviour, in redeeming the world by His Cross, was pierced in the side, He shed forth blood and water; that men, living in times of peace, might be baptized in water, and, in times of persecution, in their own blood. For martyrdom also the Saviour is wont to call a baptism, saying, *Can ye drink the cup which I drink, and be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with*¹⁶? And the Martyrs confess, by *being made a spectacle unto the world, and to Angels, and to men*¹⁷; and thou wilt soon confess:—but it is not yet the time for thee to hear of this.

11. Jesus sanctified Baptism by being Himself baptized. If the Son of God was baptized, what godly man is he that despiseth Baptism? But He was baptized not that He might receive remission of sins, for He was sinless; but being sinless, He was baptized, that He might give to them that are baptized a divine and excellent grace. For *since the children are partakers of flesh and blood, He also Himself likewise partook of the same*¹⁸, that having been

¹[Jer. i. 5.](#)

²[Luke i. 44.](#)

³[Matt. iii. 5.](#)

⁴[Matt. iii. 6.](#)

⁵[Matt. 3.7.](#)

⁶The Greek word (ὑπόστασις) is used by Polybius (xxxiv. 9) for the deposit of silver from crushed ore, and by Hippocrates for any sediment or deposit. Here it means, as the context clearly shews, the old skin cast by a snake. Compare ii. 5.

⁷[Matt. vii. 13, 14.](#)

⁸[Col. iii. 9.](#)

⁹[Song of Sol. 5.3.](#) In the Song, this saying is an excuse for not rising from bed. S. Cyril applies it in a different way.

¹⁰[Matt. iii. 10.](#)

¹¹[Luke iii. 11.](#)

¹²[Matt. xxi. 31.](#)

¹³[1 Cor. vi. 9, 10.](#)

¹⁴[Matt. iii. 11.](#)

¹⁵[Acts ii. 2.](#)

¹⁶[Mark x. 38.](#)

[17](#)1 Cor. iv. 9.

[18](#)Heb. ii. 14.

17

made partakers of His presence in the flesh we might be made partakers also of His Divine grace: thus Jesus was baptized, that thereby we again by our participation might receive both salvation and honour. According to Job, there was in the waters the dragon that *draweth up Jordan into his mouth*¹. Since, therefore, it was necessary to break the heads of the dragon in pieces², He went down and bound the strong one in the waters, that we might receive power to *tread upon serpents and scorpions*³. The beast was great and terrible. *No fishing-vessel was able to carry one scale of his tail*⁴: destruction ran before him⁵, ravaging all that met him. The Life encountered him, that the mouth of Death might henceforth be stopped, and all we that are saved might say, *O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory*⁶? The sting of death is drawn by Baptism.

12. For thou goest down into the water, bearing thy sins, but the invocation of grace⁷, having sealed thy soul, suffereth thee not afterwards to be swallowed up by the terrible dragon. Having gone down dead in sins, thou comest up quickened in righteousness. For if thou hast been *united with the likeness of the Saviour's death*⁸, thou shalt also be deemed worthy of His Resurrection. For as Jesus took upon Him the sins of the world, and died, that by putting sin to death He might rise again in righteousness; so thou by going down into the water, and being in a manner buried in the waters, as He was in the rock, art raised again *walking in newness of life*⁹.

13. Moreover, when thou hast been deemed worthy of the grace, He then giveth thee strength to wrestle against the adverse powers. For as after His Baptism He was tempted forty days (not that He was unable to gain the victory before, but because He wished to do all things in due order and succession), so thou likewise, though not daring before thy baptism to wrestle with the adversaries, yet after thou hast received the grace and art henceforth confident in *the armour of righteousness*¹⁰, must then do battle, and preach the Gospel, if thou wilt.

14. Jesus Christ was the Son of God, yet He preached not the Gospel before His Baptism. If the Master Himself followed the right time in due order, ought we, His servants, to venture out of order? *From that time Jesus began to preach*¹¹, when *the Holy Spirit had descended upon Him in a bodily shape, like a dove*¹²; not that Jesus might see Him first, for He knew Him even before He came in a bodily shape, but that John, who was baptizing Him, might behold Him. For *I, saith he, knew Him not: but He that sent me to baptize with water, He said unto me, Upon whomsoever thou shalt see the Spirit descending and abiding on Him, that is He*¹³. If thou too hast unfeigned piety, the Holy Ghost cometh down on thee also, and a Father's voice sounds over thee from on high—not, *"This is My Son,"* but, *"This has now been made My son;"* for the *"is"* belongs to Him alone, because *In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God*¹⁴. To Him belongs the *"is,"* since He is always the Son of God: but to thee *"has now been made:"* since thou hast not the sonship by nature, but receivest it by adoption. He eternally *"is;"* but thou receivest the grace by advancement.

15. Make ready then the vessel of thy soul, that thou mayest become a son of God, and *an heir of God, and joint-heir with Christ*¹⁵; if, indeed, thou art preparing thyself that thou mayest receive; if thou art drawing nigh in faith that thou mayest be made faithful; if of set purpose thou art putting off the old man. For all things whatsoever thou hast done shall be forgiven thee, whether it be fornication, or adultery, or any other such form of licentiousness. What can be a greater sin than to crucify Christ? Yet even of this Baptism can purify. For so spake Peter to the three thousand who came to him, to those who had crucified the Lord, when they asked him, saying, *Men and brethren, what shall we do*¹⁶? For the wound is great. Thou hast made us think of our fall, O Peter, by saying, *Ye killed the Prince of Life*¹⁷. What salve is there for so great a wound? What cleansing for such foulness? What is the salvation for such perdition? *Repent, saith he, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost*¹⁸. O unspeakable loving-kindness of God! They have no hope of being saved, and yet they are thought worthy of the Holy Ghost. Thou seest the power of Baptism! If any of you has crucified the Christ by blasphemous words; if any of you in ignorance has denied Him before men; if any by wicked works has caused the doctrine to be blasphemed; let him repent and be of good hope, for the same grace is present even now.

¹[Job xl. 23.](#)

²[Ps. lxxiv. 14.](#)

³[Luke x. 19.](#)

⁴[Job xl. 26.](#) in the Sept. in place of xli. 7: Canst thou fill his skin with barbed irons, or his head with fish spears? (A.V. and R.V.)

⁵[Job xli. 13.](#) Sept. but in R.V. [Job 41.22](#): And terror danceth before him.

⁶[1 Cor. xv. 55.](#)

⁷Compare III. 3, and see Index, "Baptism."

⁸[Rom. vi. 5.](#)

⁹[Rom. vi. 4.](#) Instead of "might rise again" (Roe, Casaub. Mon.), the older Editions have "might raise thee up," which is less appropriate in this part of the sentence.

¹⁰[2 Cor. vi. 7.](#)

¹¹[Matt. iv. 17.](#)

¹²[Luke iii. 22.](#)

¹³[John i. 33.](#)

¹⁴[John 1.1.](#)

¹⁵[Rom. viii. 17.](#)

¹⁶[Acts ii. 37.](#)

¹⁷[Acts 3.15.](#)

¹⁸[Acts 2.58.](#)

 18

16. *Be of good courage, O Jerusalem; the Lord will take away all thine iniquities¹. The Lord will wash away the filth of His sons and of His daughters by the Spirit of judgment, and by the Spirit of burning². He will sprinkle clean water upon you, and ye shall be cleansed from all your sin³. Angels shall dance around you, and say, Who is this that cometh up in white array, leaning upon her beloved⁴? For the soul that was formerly a slave has now adopted her Master Himself as her kinsman: and He accepting the unfeigned purpose will answer: Behold, thou art fair, my love; behold, thou art fair: thy teeth are like flocks of sheep new shorn, (because of the confession of a good conscience: and further) which have all of them twins⁵; because of the twofold grace, I mean that which is perfected of water and of the Spirit⁶, or that which is announced by the Old and by the New Testament. And God grant that all of you when you have finished the course of the fast, may remember what I say, and bringing forth fruit in good works, may stand blameless beside the Spiritual Bridegroom, and obtain the remission of your sins from God; to whom with the Son and Holy Spirit be the glory for ever. Amen.*

¹[Zeph. iii. 14, 15.](#)

²[Is. iv. 4.](#)

³[Ezek. xxxvi. 25.](#)

⁴[Song of Sol. 8.4.](#) Gr. ἀδελφιδόν, “brother,” “kinsman.”

⁵[Song of Sol. 4.1.2.](#)

⁶The Fathers sometimes speak as if Baptism was primarily the Sacrament of remission of sins, and *upon* that came the gift of the Spirit, which notwithstanding was but begun in Baptism and completed in Confirmation. Vid. Tertullian. *de Bapt.* 7, 8, *supr.* i. 5 *fin.* Hence, as in the text, Baptism may be said to be made up of *two* gifts, Water, which is Christ’s blood, and the Spirit. There is no real difference between this and the ordinary way of speaking on the subject;—Water, which *conveys* both gifts, is considered as a *type* of one especially,—*conveys* both remission of sins through Christ’s blood and the grace of the Spirit, but is the *type* of one, *viz.* the blood of Christ, as the Oil in Confirmation is of the other. And again, remission of sins is a complete gift given at once, sanctification an increasing one. (R.W.C.) See Index, “Baptism.”

19

Lecture IV.

On the Ten¹ Points of Doctrine.

[COLOSSIANS II. 8.](#)

Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after the rudiments of the world, &c.

1. VICE mimics virtue, and the tares strive to be thought wheat, growing like the wheat in appearance, but being detected by good judges from the taste. *The devil also transfigures himself into an angel of light²*; not that he may reascend to where he was, for having made *his heart hard as an anvil³*, he has henceforth a will that cannot repent; but in order that he may envelope those who are living an Angelic life in a mist of blindness, and a pestilent condition of unbelief. Many wolves are going about *in sheeps’ clothing⁴*, their clothing being that of sheep, not so their claws and teeth: but clad in their soft skin, and deceiving the innocent by their appearance, they shed upon them from their fangs the destructive poison of ungodliness. We have need therefore of divine grace, and of a sober mind, and of eyes that see, lest from eating tares as wheat we suffer harm from ignorance, and lest from taking the wolf to be a sheep we become his prey, and from supposing the destroying Devil to be a beneficent Angel we be devoured: for, as the Scripture saith, *he goeth about as a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour⁵*. This is the cause of the Church’s admonitions, the cause of the present instructions, and of the lessons which are read.

2. For the method of godliness consists of these two things, pious doctrines, and virtuous practice: and neither are the doctrines acceptable to God apart from good works, nor does God accept the works which are not perfected with pious doctrines. For what profit is it, to know well the doctrines concerning God, and yet to be a vile fornicator? And again, what profit is it, to be nobly temperate, and an impious blasphemer? A most precious possession therefore is the knowledge of doctrines: also there is need of a wakeful soul, since there are many *that make spoil through philosophy and vain deceit⁶*. The Greeks on the one hand draw men away by their smooth tongue, *for honey droppeth from a harlot’s lips⁷*: whereas they of the Circumcision deceive those who come to them by means of the Divine Scriptures, which they miserably misinterpret though *studying them from childhood to old age⁸*, and growing old in ignorance. But the children of heretics, *by their good words and smooth tongue, deceive the hearts of the innocent⁹*, disguising with the name of Christ as it were with honey the poisoned

arrows¹⁰ of their impious doctrines: concerning all of whom together the Lord saith, Take heed lest any man mislead you¹¹. This is the reason for the teaching of the Creed and for expositions upon it.

3. But before delivering you over to the Creed¹², I think it is well to make use at present of a short summary of necessary doctrines; that the multitude of things to be spoken, and the long interval of the days of all this holy Lent, may not cause forgetfulness in the mind of the more simple among you; but that, having strewn some seeds now in a summary way, we may not forget the same when afterwards more widely tilled. But let those here present whose habit of mind is mature, and

¹The number “ten” is confirmed by Theodoret, who quotes the article on Christ’s “Birth of the Virgin” as from Cyril’s fourth Catechetical Lecture “On the ten Doctrines.” The mss. vary between “ten” and “eleven,” and differ also in the special titles and numeration of the separate Articles.

²2 Cor. xi. 14.

³Job xli. 24, Sept.; Job 41. 15: ἡ καρδία αὐτοῦ...ἔσπικεν ὥσπερ ἄκμων ἀνήλατος. These statements concerning the Devil seem to be directed against Origen’s opinion (*De Principiis* l. 2), that the Angels “who have been removed from their primal state of blessedness have not been removed irrecoverably.” The question is discussed, and the opinions of several Fathers quoted, by Huet, *Origeniana*, ll. c. 25.

⁴Matt. vii. 15. The same text is applied to Heretics by Ignatius, *Philadelph.* ii. and by Irenæus, L. I. c. i. § 2.

⁵1 Pet. v. 8.

⁶Col. ii. 8.

⁷Prov. v. 3.

⁸Is. xlii. 3. Sept. παιδευόμενοι ἐκ παιδίου ἕως γήρως.

⁹Rom. xvi. 17. Cyril has εὐγλωττίας in place of εὐλογίας.

¹⁰Compare Ignatius, *Trall.* vi.

¹¹Matt. xxiv. 4.

¹²Compare Rom. vi. 17: “*that form of teaching whereunto ye were delivered.*” The instruction of Catechumens in the Articles of the Faith was commonly called the “*Traditio Symboli*,” or “*Delivery of the Creed.*”

20

who have their senses already exercised to discern good and evil¹, endure patiently to listen to things fitted rather for children, and to an introductory course, as it were, of milk: that at the same time both those who have need of the instruction may be benefited, and those who have the knowledge may rekindle the remembrance of things which they already know.

I. Of God.

4. First then let there be laid as a foundation in your soul the doctrine concerning God; that God is One, alone unbegotten, without beginning, change, or variation²; neither begotten of another, nor having another to succeed Him in His life; who neither began to live in time, nor endeth ever: and that He is both good and just; that if ever thou hear a heretic say, that there is one God who is just, and another who is good³, thou mayest immediately remember, and discern the poisoned arrow of heresy. For some have impiously dared to divide the One God in

their teaching: and some have said that one is the Creator and Lord of the soul, and another of the body⁴; a doctrine at once absurd and impious. For how can a man become the one servant of two masters, when our Lord says in the Gospels, *No man can serve two masters*⁵? There is then One Only God, the Maker both of souls and bodies: One the Creator of heaven and earth, the Maker of Angels and Archangels: of many the Creator, but of One only the Father before all ages,—of One only, His Only-begotten Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, by Whom He made *all things visible and invisible*⁶.

5. This Father of our Lord Jesus Christ is not circumscribed in any place⁷, nor is He less than the heaven; *but the heavens are the works of His fingers*⁸, and *the whole earth is held in His grasp*⁹: He is in all things and around all. Think not that the sun is brighter than He¹⁰, or equal to Him: for He who at first formed the sun must needs be incomparably greater and brighter. He foreknoweth the things that shall be, and is mightier than all, knowing all things and doing as He will; not being subject to any necessary sequence of events, nor to nativity, nor chance, nor fate; in all things perfect, and equally possessing every absolute form¹¹ of virtue, neither diminishing nor increasing, but in mode and conditions ever the same; who hath prepared punishment for sinners, and a crown for the righteous.

6. Seeing then that many have gone astray in divers ways from the One God, some having deified the sun, that when the sun sets they may abide in the night season without God; others the moon, to have no God by day¹²; others the other parts of the world¹³; others the arts¹⁴; others their various kinds of food¹⁵; others their pleasures¹⁶; while some, mad after women, have set up on high an image of a naked woman, and called it Aphrodite¹⁷, and worshipped their own lust in a visible form; and others dazzled by the brightness of gold have deified it¹⁸ and the other kinds of matter;—whereas if one lay as a first foundation in his heart the doctrine of the unity¹⁹ of God, and trust to Him, he roots out at once the whole crop²⁰ of the evils of idolatry, and of the error of the heretics: lay thou, therefore, this first doctrine of religion as a foundation in thy soul by faith.

Of Christ.

7. Believe also in the Son of God, One and Only, our Lord Jesus Christ, Who was be

¹[Heb. v. 14.](#)

²Compare Hermas, *Mandat.* I. Athan. *Epist. de Decretis Nic. Syn.* xxii.: οὕτω καὶ τὸ ἄτρεπτον καὶ ἀναλλοίωτον αὐτὸν εἶναι σωθήσεται. So Aristotle (*Metaphys.* XI. c. iv. 13) describes the First Cause as ἀπαθὲς καὶ ἀναλλοίωτον.

³Irenæus, I. c. xxvii. says that Cerdo taught that the God of the Law and the Prophets was not the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ: for that He is known, but the other unknown, and the one is just, but the other good. Also III. c. 25, § 3: “Marcion himself, therefore, by dividing God into two, and calling the one good, and the other judicial, on both sides puts an end to Deity.” Compare Tertullian, c. *Marcion.* I. 2, and 6; Origen, c. *Cels.* iv. 54.

⁴This tenet was held by the Manichæans and other heretics, and is traced back to the Apostolic age by Bishop Pearson (*Exposition of the Creed*, Art. i. p. 79, note c). Compare Athanasius c. *Apollinarium*, I. 21; II. 8; c. *Gentes*, § 6; *de Incarnatione*, § 2, in this series, and Augustine (c. *Faustum*, xx. 15, 21, and xxi. 4).

⁵[Matt. vi. 24;](#) [Luke xvi. 13.](#)

⁶[John i. 3;](#) [Col. i. 16.](#)

⁷S. Aug. in *Ps.* lxxv. 6: Si in aliquo loco esset, non esset Deus. *Sermo* 342: Deus habitando continet non continetur. Origen, c. *Cels.* vii. 34: “God is of too excellent a nature for any place: He holds all things in His power, and is Himself not confined by anything whatever.” Compare the quotation from Sir Isaac Newton’s *Principia*, in the note on Cat. vi. 8.

⁸[Ps. viii. 3.](#)

⁹[Is. xl. 12.](#)

¹⁰See Cat. xv. 3, and note there.

¹¹[ιδέαν](#). Cyril uses the word in the Platonic sense, as in the next sentence he adopts the formula, which Plato commonly uses in describing the “idea:” ἀεὶ κατὰ τὰ αὐτὰ καὶ ὡσαύτως ἔχειν. *Phaed.* 78 c.

¹²[Job xxxi. 26, 27.](#) The worship of Sun and Moon under various names was almost universal.

¹³Gaea or Tellus, the earth; Zeus or Jupiter, the sky; rivers, fountains, &c.

¹⁴Music, Medicine, Hunting, War, Agriculture, Metallurgy, &c., represented by Apollo, Æsculapius, Diana, Mars, Ceres, Vulcan.

¹⁵Herodotus, Book II., describes the Egyptian worship of various birds, fishes, and quadrupeds. Leeks and onions also were held sacred: Porrum et caepe nefas violare, *Juv. Sat.* xv. 9. Compare Clement of Alexandria, *Protrept.* c. ii. § 39, Klotz.

¹⁶Eros, Dionysus.

¹⁷Clement of Alexandria (*Protrept.* c. iv. § 53, Klotz) states that the courtesan Phryne was taken as a model for Aphrodite. “Praxiteles when fashioning the statue of Aphrodite of Cnidus made it like the form of Cratine his paramour.” *Ibid.*

¹⁸Plutus.

¹⁹τῆς μοναρχίας τοῦ θεοῦ. See note on the title of Cat. VI. Praxeas made use of the term “Monarchy” to exclude the Son (and the Spirit) from the Godhead. Tertullian in his treatise against Praxeas maintains the true doctrine that the Son is no obstacle to the “Monarchy,” because He is of the substance of the Father, does nothing without the Father’s will, and has received all power from the Father, to Whom He will in the end deliver up the kingdom. In this sense Dionysius, Bishop of Rome, speaks of the Divine Monarchy as “that most sacred doctrine of the Church of God.” Compare Athanas. *de Decretis, Nic. Syn.* c. vi. § 3 and Dr. Newman’s note. In *Orat. iv. c. Arian.* p. 606 (617), Athanasius derives the term from ἀρχή, in the sense of “beginning:” οὕτως μία ἀρχὴ θεότητος καὶ οὐ δύο ἀρχαί, ὅθεν κυρίως καὶ μοναρχία ἐστίν. See the full discussion of Monarchianism in *Athanasius*, p. xxiii. ff. in this series, and Newman’s Introduction to *Athan. Or.* iv.

²⁰For φορᾶν (*Bened.*) many MSS. read φθορᾶν, “corruption.”

21

gotten God of God, begotten Life of Life, begotten Light of Light¹, Who is in all things like² to Him that begat, Who received not His being in time, but was before all ages eternally and incomprehensibly begotten of the Father: The Wisdom and the Power of God, and His Righteousness personally subsisting³: Who sitteth on the right hand of the Father before all ages.

For the throne at God’s right hand He received not, as some have thought, because of His patient endurance, being crowned as it were by God after His Passion; but throughout His being,—a being by eternal generation⁴,—He holds His royal dignity, and shares the Father’s seat, being God and Wisdom and Power, as hath been said; reigning together with the Father, and creating all things for the Father, yet lacking nothing in the dignity of Godhead, and knowing Him that hath begotten Him, even as He is known of Him that hath begotten; and to speak briefly, remember thou what is written in the Gospels, that *none knoweth the Son but the Father, neither knoweth any the Father save the Son*⁵.

8. Further, do thou neither separate⁶ the Son from the Father, nor by making a confusion believe in a Son-Fatherhood⁷; but believe that of One God there is One Only-begotten Son, who is before all ages God the Word;

not the uttered⁸ word diffused into the air, nor to be likened to impersonal words⁹; but the Word the Son, Maker of all who partake of reason, the Word who heareth the Father, and Himself speaketh. And on these points, should God permit, we will speak more at large in due season; for we do not forget our present purpose to give a summary introduction to the Faith.

Concerning His Birth of the Virgin.

9. Believe then that this Only-begotten Son of God for our sins came down from heaven upon earth, and took upon Him this human nature of like passions¹⁰ with us, and was begotten of the Holy Virgin and of the Holy Ghost, and was made Man, not in seeming and mere show¹¹, but in truth; nor yet by passing through the Virgin as through a channel¹²; but was of her made truly flesh, [and truly nourished with milk¹³], and did truly eat as we do, and truly drink as we do. For if the Incarnation was a phantom, salvation is a phantom also. The Christ was of two natures, Man in what was seen, but God in what was not seen; as Man truly eating like us, for He had the like feeling of the flesh with us; but as God feeding the five thousand from five loaves; as Man truly dying, but as God raising him that had been dead four days; truly sleeping in the ship as Man, and walking upon the waters as God.

Of the Cross.

10. He was truly crucified for our sins. For if thou wouldest deny it, the place refutes thee visibly, this blessed Golgotha¹⁴, in which we are now assembled for the sake of Him who was here crucified; and the whole world has since been filled with pieces of the wood of the Cross¹⁵. But He was crucified not for sins of His own, but that we might be delivered from *our* sins. And though as Man He was at that time *despised of men*, and was buffeted, yet He was acknowledged by the Creation as God: for when the sun saw his Lord dishonoured, he grew dim and trembled, not enduring the sight.

¹Compare xi. 4, 9, 18.

²Τὸν ὅμοιον κατὰ πάντα τῷ γεννησαντι. On the meaning and history of this phrase, proposed by the Semi-Arians at the Council of Ariminum as a substitute for ὁμοούσιον, see Athan. *de Syn.* § 8, *sqq.*

³ἐνυπόστατος. Cf. xi. 10; Athan. *c. Apollinar.* l. 20, 21.

⁴The mss. vary much, but I have followed the Benedictine text.

⁵Matt. xi. 27; John x. 15; xvii. 25.

⁶This was a point earnestly maintained by the orthodox Bishops at Nicæa, that the Son begotten of the substance of the Father is ever inseparably in the Father. Athan. *de Decretis Syn.* c. 20; Tertullian *c. Marc.* IV. c. 6. Cf. Ignat. *ad Trall.* vi. (Long Recension): τὸν μὲν γὰρ Χριστὸν ἀλλοτριουσι τοῦ Πατρὸς.

⁷Υιοπατορία. A term of derision applied to the doctrine of Sabellius. Compare Athanas. *Expositio Fidei*, c. 2: "neither do we imagine a Son-Father, as the Sabellians." See Index, Υιοπάτωρ.

⁸Λόγος προφορικός, the term used by Paul of Samosata, implied that the Word was impersonal, being conceived as a particular activity of God. See Dorner, *Person of Christ*, Div. I. vol. ii. p. 436 (English Tr.): and compare Athanasius, *Expositio Fidei*, c. 1; υἱὸν ἐκ τοῦ Πατρὸς ἀνάρχως καὶ αἰδίως γεγεννημένον, λόγον δὲ οὐ προφορικόν, οὐκ ἐνδιάθετον. Cardinal Newman (*Athan. c. Arianos*, l. 7, note) observes that some Christian writers of the 2nd Century "seem to speak of the Divine generation as taking place immediately before the creation of the world, that is, as if not eternal, though at the same time they teach that our Lord existed before that generation. In other words they seem to teach that He was the Word from eternity, and became the Son at the beginning of all things; some of them expressly considering Him, first as the λόγος ἐνδιάθετος, or Reason, in the Father, or (as may be speciously represented) a mere attribute; next, as the λόγος προφορικός, or Word."

The terms λόγος ἐνδιάθετος, or ‘word conceived in the mind,’ and λόγος προφορικός, or ‘word expressed’ (*emissum*, or *prolaliūm*), were in use among the Gnostics (*Iren.* II. c. 12, § 5). As applied to the Son both terms, though sometimes used in a right sense, were condemned as inadequate. Compare xi. 10.

⁹ἀνυποστάτοις λόγοις. Athan. *c. Arianos Orat.* iv. c. 8: πάλιν οἱ λέγοντες μόνον ὄνομα εἶναι υἱοῦ, ἀνούσιον δὲ καὶ ἀνυπόστατον εἶναι τὸν υἱὸν τοῦ Θεοῦ, κ.τ.λ.

¹⁰ὁμοιοπαθῇ. Compare [Acts xiv. 15](#); [Jas. v. 17](#).

¹¹On the origin of the Docetic heresy, see vi. 14.

¹²Valentinus the Gnostic taught that God produced a Son of an animal nature who “passed through Mary just as water through a tube, and that on him the Saviour descended at his Baptism.” Irenæus, I. vii. 2.

¹³The words which the Benedictine Editor introduces in the brackets are found in Theodoret, and adopted by recent Editors, with Codd. M.A.

¹⁴Eusebius, *Life of Constantine*, iii. 28.

¹⁵The discovery of the “True Cross” is related with many marvellous particulars by Socrates, *Eccles. Hist.* i. 17; and Sozomen, *E. H.* ii. 1. A portion was said to have been left by Helena at Jerusalem, enclosed in a silver case; and another portion sent to Constantinople, where Constantine privately enclosed it in his own statue, to be a safeguard to the city. Eusebius, *Life of Constantine*, iii. 25–30, gives a long account of the discovery of the Holy Sepulchre, but makes no mention of the Cross. Cyril seems to have been the first to record it, 25 years after. Cf. Greg. Nyss. *Bapt. Christi* (p. 519).

22

Of His Burial.

11. He was truly laid as Man in a tomb of rock; but rocks were rent asunder by terror because of Him. He went down into the regions beneath the earth, that thence also He might redeem the righteous¹. For, tell me, couldst thou wish the living only to enjoy His grace, and that, though most of them are unholy; and not wish those who from Adam had for a long while been imprisoned to have now gained their liberty? Esaias the Prophet proclaimed with loud voice so many things concerning Him; wouldst thou not wish that the King should go down and redeem His herald? David was there, and Samuel, and all the Prophets², John himself also, who by his messengers said, *Art thou He that should come, or look we for another*³? Wouldst thou not wish that He should descend and redeem such as these?

Of the Resurrection.

12. But He who descended into the regions beneath the earth came up again; and Jesus, who was buried, truly rose again the third day. And if the Jews ever worry thee, meet them at once by asking thus: Did Jonah come forth from the whale on the third day, and hath not Christ then risen from the earth on the third day? Is a dead man raised to life on touching the bones of Elisha, and is it not much easier for the Maker of mankind to be raised by the power of the Father? Well then, He truly rose, and after He had risen was seen again of the disciples: and twelve disciples were witnesses of His Resurrection, who bare witness not in pleasing words, but contended even unto torture and death for the truth of the Resurrection. What then, *shall every word be established at the mouth of two of three witnesses*⁴, according to the Scripture, and, though twelve bear witness to the Resurrection of Christ, art thou still incredulous in regard to His Resurrection?

Concerning the Ascension.

13. But when Jesus had finished His course of patient endurance, and had redeemed mankind from their sins, He ascended again into the heavens, a cloud receiving Him up: and as He went up Angels were beside Him, and

Apostles were beholding. But if any man disbelieves the words which I speak, let him believe the actual power of the things now seen. All kings when they die have their power extinguished with their life: but Christ crucified is worshipped by the whole world. We proclaim The Crucified, and the devils tremble now. Many have been crucified at various times; but of what other who was crucified did the invocation ever drive the devils away?

14. Let us, therefore, not be ashamed of the Cross of Christ; but though another hide it, do thou openly seal it upon thy forehead, that the devils may behold the royal sign and flee trembling far away⁵. Make then this sign at eating and drinking, at sitting, at lying down, at rising up, at speaking, at walking: in a word, at every act⁶. For He who was here crucified is in heaven above. If after being crucified and buried He had remained in the tomb, we should have had cause to be ashamed; but, in fact, He who was crucified on Golgotha here, has ascended into heaven from the Mount of Olives on the East. For after having gone down hence into Hades, and come up again to us, He ascended again from us into heaven, His Father addressing Him, and saying, *Sit Thou on My right hand, until I make Thine enemies Thy footstool*⁷.

Of Judgment to Come.

15. This Jesus Christ who is gone up shall come again, not from earth but from heaven: and I say, "not from earth," because there are many Antichrists to come at this time from earth. For already, as thou hast seen, many have begun to say, *I am the Christ*⁸: and *the abomination of desolation*⁹ is yet to come, assuming to himself the false title of Christ. But look thou for the true Christ, the Only-begotten Son of God, coming henceforth no more from earth, but from heaven, appearing to all more bright than any lightning and brilliancy of light, with angel guards attended, that He may judge both quick and dead, and reign in a heavenly, eternal kingdom, which shall have no end. For on this point also, I pray thee, make thyself sure, since there are many who say that Christ's Kingdom hath an end¹⁰.

¹Compare xiv. 18, 19, on the Descent into Hades.

²The same Old Testament saints are named in xiv. 19, as redeemed by Christ in Hades.

³[Matt. xi. 3.](#)

⁴[Deut. xix. 15.](#)

⁵Justin M. *Dialogue with Trypho*, 247 C: We call Him Helper and Redeemer, the power of whose Name even demons do fear; and at this day, when exorcised in the name of Jesus Christ, crucified under Pontius Pilate, Governor of Judæa, they are overcome.

⁶Tertullian, *de Coronâ*, 3: At every forward step and movement, at every going in and out, when we put on our clothes and shoes, when we bathe, when we sit at table, when we light the lamps, on couch, on seat, in all the ordinary actions of daily life, we trace upon the forehead the Sign. If for these, and other such rules, you insist upon having positive Scripture injunction, you will find none. Tradition will be held forth to you as the originator of them, custom as their strengthener, and faith as their observer.

⁷[Ps. cx. 1.](#)

⁸[Matt. xxiv. 5.](#)

⁹[Matt. xxiv. 15.](#) Compare Cat. xv. 9, 15.

¹⁰Compare xv. 27, where the followers of Marcellus of Ancyra are indicated as holding this opinion.

Of the Holy Ghost.

16. Believe thou also in the Holy Ghost, and hold the same opinion concerning Him, which thou hast *received to hold* concerning the Father and the Son, and follow not those who teach blasphemous things of Him¹. But learn thou that this Holy Spirit is One, indivisible, of manifold power; having many operations, yet not Himself divided; Who knoweth the mysteries, *Who searcheth all things, even the deep things of God*²: Who descended upon the Lord Jesus Christ in form of a dove; Who wrought in the Law and in the Prophets; Who now also at the season of Baptism sealeth thy soul; of Whose holiness also every intellectual nature hath need: against Whom *if any dare to blaspheme, he hath no forgiveness, neither in this world, nor in that which is to come*³: “Who with the Father and the Son together⁴” is honoured with the glory of the Godhead: of Whom also *thrones, and dominions, principalities, and powers* have need⁵. For there is One God, the Father of Christ; and One Lord Jesus Christ, the Only-begotten Son of the Only God; and One Holy Ghost, the sanctifier and deifier of all⁶, Who spake in the Law and in the Prophets, in the Old and in the New Testament.

17. Have thou ever in thy mind this seal⁷, which for the present has been lightly touched in my discourse, by way of summary, but shall be stated, should the Lord permit, to the best of my power with the proof from the Scriptures. For concerning the divine and holy mysteries of the Faith, not even a casual statement must be delivered without the Holy Scriptures; nor must we be drawn aside by mere plausibility and artifices of speech. Even to me, who tell thee these things, give not absolute credence, unless thou receive the proof of the things which I announce from the Divine Scriptures. For this salvation which we believe depends not on ingenious reasoning⁸, but on demonstration of the Holy Scriptures.

Of the Soul.

18. Next to the knowledge of this venerable and glorious and all-holy Faith, learn further what thou thyself art: that as man thou art of a two-fold nature, consisting of soul and body; and that, as was said a short time ago, the same God is the Creator both of soul and body⁹. Know also that thou hast a soul self-governed, the noblest work of God, made after the image of its Creator¹⁰: immortal because of God that gives it immortality; a living being, rational, imperishable, because of Him that bestowed these gifts: having free power to do what it willeth¹¹. For it is not according to thy nativity that thou sinnest, nor is it by the power of chance that thou committest fornication, nor, as some idly talk, do the conjunctions of the stars compel thee to give thyself to wantonness¹². Why dost thou shrink from confessing thine own evil deeds, and ascribe the blame to the innocent stars? Give no more heed, pray, to astrologers; for of these the divine Scripture saith, *Let the stargazers of the heaven stand up and save thee*, and what follows: *Behold, they all shall be consumed as stubble on the fire, and shall not deliver their soul from the flame*¹³.

19. And learn this also, that the soul, before it came into this world, had committed no sin¹⁴, but having come in sinless, we now sin of our free-will. Listen not, I pray thee, to any one perversely interpreting the words, *But if I do that which I would not*¹⁵: but remember Him who saith, *If ye be willing, and hearken unto Me, ye shall eat the good things of the land: but if ye be not willing, neither hearken unto Me, the sword shall devour you, &c.*¹⁶: and again, *As ye presented your members as servants to uncleanness and to iniquity unto iniquity, even so now present your members as servants to righteousness unto sanctification*¹⁷. Remember also the Scripture, which saith, *Even as they did not like to retain God in their knowledge*¹⁸: and, *That which may be known of God is mani-*

¹In xvi. 6–10, Cyril gives a long list of heresies concerning the Holy Ghost.

²1 Cor. ii. 10.

³Matt. xii. 32.

⁴This clause is not in the Creed of Nicæa, but is added in the Creed of Constantinople, A.D. 381.

⁵Col. i. 16.

⁶θεοποιόν is omitted in Codd. Roe, Casaubon, and A.

⁷The Benedictine Editor argues from Cat. i. 5, "that thou mayest by faith seal up the things that are spoken;" and xxiii. 18: "sealing up the Prayer by the Amen," that Cyril means by "this seal" the firm belief of Christian doctrine. Compare [John iii. 33](#). But Milles understands by the "seal" the Creed itself, which agrees better with the following context.

⁸ἡ σωτηρία γὰρ αὕτη τῆς πίστεως ἡμῶν, which might be rendered, "this our salvation by faith," or, with Milles, "this safety of our Faith." For the rendering in the text compare [Heb. iii. 1](#): ἀρχιερέα τῆς ὁμολογίας ἡμῶν. On εὐρεσιλογία, see Polybius xviii. 29, § 3: διὰ τῆς προς ἀλλήλους εὐρεσιλογίας.

⁹iv. 4.

¹⁰In the Clementine Homily xvi. 16, the soul having come forth from God, clothed with His breath, is said to be of the same substance, and yet not God. In Tertull. c. *Marcion* II. c. 9, the soul is the *affatus* (πνοή not πνεῦμα) of God, i.e. the image of the Spirit, and inferior to it, though possessing the true lineaments of divinity, immortality, freedom, its own mastery over itself.

¹¹Tertull. c. *Marc.* II. 6: It was proper that he who is the image and likeness of God should be formed with a free will, and a mastery of himself, so that this very thing, namely freedom of will and self-command, might be reckoned as the image and likeness of God in him.

¹²Compare Aug. *de Civ. Dei.* v. 1, where he says that the astrologers (Mathematici) say, not merely such or such a position of Mars signifies that a man will be a murderer, but makes him a murderer. See Dict. of Christian Antiq., "Astrology."

¹³[Is. xlvii. 13](#).

¹⁴"The Orphic poets were under the impression that the soul is suffering the punishment of sin, and that the body is an enclosure or prison in which the soul is incarcerated and kept (σώζεται) as the name σῶμα implies, until the penalty is paid." Plato, *Cratyl.* 400. Clement of Alexandria (*Strom.* III. iii. 17), after referring to this passage of Plato, quotes Philolaus the Pythagorean, as saying: "The ancient theologians and soothsayers also testify that the soul has been chained to the body for a kind of punishment, and is buried in it as in a tomb."

¹⁵[Rom. vii. 16](#).

¹⁶[Is. i. 19, 20](#).

¹⁷[Rom. vi. 19](#).

¹⁸[Rom. i. 28](#).

24

*festin them*¹; and again, *their eyes they have closed*². Also remember how God again accuseth them, and saith, *Yet I planted thee a fruitful vine, wholly true: how art thou turned to bitterness, thou the strange vine*³?

20. The soul is immortal, and all souls are alike both of men and women; for only the members of the body are distinguished⁴. There is not a class of souls sinning by nature, and a class of souls practising righteousness by nature⁵: but both act from choice, the substance of their souls being of one kind only, and alike in all. I know, however, that I am talking much, and that the time is already long: but what is more precious than salvation? Art thou not willing to take trouble in getting provisions for the way against the heretics? And wilt thou not learn the bye-paths of the road, lest from ignorance thou fall down a precipice? If thy teachers think it no small gain for thee to learn these things, shouldest not thou the learner gladly receive the multitude of things told thee?

21. The soul is self-governed: and though the devil can suggest, he has not the power to compel against the will. He pictures to thee the thought of fornication: if thou wilt, thou acceptest it; if thou wilt not, thou rejectest. For if thou wert a fornicator by necessity, then for what cause did God prepare hell? If thou were a doer of righteousness by nature and not by will, wherefore did God prepare crowns of ineffable glory? The sheep is gentle, but never was it crowned for its gentleness: since its gentle quality belongs to it not from choice but by nature.

Of the Body.

22. Thou hast learned, beloved, the nature of the soul, as far as there is time at present: now do thy best to receive the doctrine of the body also. Suffer none of those who say that this body is no work of God⁶: for they who believe that the body is independent of God, and that the soul dwells in it as in a strange vessel, readily abuse it to fornication⁷. And yet what fault have they found in this wonderful body? For what is lacking in comeliness? And what in its structure is not full of skill? Ought they not to have observed the luminous construction of the eyes? And how the ears being set obliquely receive the sound unhindered? And how the smell is able to distinguish scents, and to perceive exhalations? And how the tongue ministers to two purposes, the sense of taste, and the power of speech? How the lungs placed out of sight are unceasing in their respiration of the air? Who imparted the incessant pulsation of the heart? Who made the distribution into so many veins and arteries? Who skilfully knitted together the bones with the sinews? Who assigned a part of the food to our substance, and separated a part for decent secretion, and hid away the unseemly members in more seemly places? Who when the human race must have died out, rendered it by a simple intercourse perpetual?

23. Tell me not that the body is a cause of sin⁸. For if the body is a cause of sin, why does not a dead body sin? Put a sword in the right hand of one just dead, and no murder takes place. Let beauties of every kind pass before a youth just dead, and no impure desire arises. Why? Because the body sins not of itself, but the soul through the body. The body is an instrument, and, as it were, a garment and robe of the soul: and if by this latter it be given over to fornication, it becomes defiled: but if it dwell with a holy soul, it becomes a temple of the Holy Ghost. It is not I that say this, but the Apostle Paul hath said, *Know ye not, that your bodies are the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you*⁹? Be tender, therefore, of thy body as being a temple of the Holy Ghost. Pollute not thy flesh in fornication: defile not this thy fairest robe: and if ever thou hast defiled it, now cleanse it by repentance: get thyself washed, while time permits.

24. And to the doctrine of chastity let the first to give heed be the order of Solitaries¹⁰ and of Virgins, who maintain the angelic life in the world; and let the rest of the Church's people follow them. For you, brethren, a great crown is laid up: barter not away a great dignity for a petty pleasure: listen to the Apostle speaking: *Lest there be any fornicator or profane person, as Esau, who for one mess of*

¹Rom. i. 19.

²Matt. xiii. 15.

³Jer. ii. 21.

⁴Apelles, the heretic, attributed the difference of sex to the soul, which existing before the body impressed its sex upon it. Tertull. *On the Soul*, c. xxxvi.

⁵Irenæus I. vii. 5: "They (the Valentinians) conceive of three kinds of men, spiritual, material, and animal....These three natures are no longer found in one person, but constitute various kinds of men....And again subdividing the animal souls themselves, they say that some are by nature good, and others by nature evil." Origen *on Romans*, Lib. VIII. § 10: "I know not how those who come from the School of Valentinus and Basilides...suppose that there are souls of one nature which are always safe and never perish, and others which always perish, and are never saved."

⁶See iv. 18.

⁷On the impure practices of the Manichees, see vi. 33, 34.

⁸Fortunatus, the Manichee, in August. *Disput.* ii. 20, *contra Fortunat.* is represented as saying, What we assert is this, that the soul is compelled to sin by a substance of contrary nature.

²¹[1 Cor. vi. 19.](#)

¹⁰μονάζοντες. Compare xii. 33; xvi. 22. The origin of Monasticism is usually traced to the time of the Decian persecution, the middle of the third century. Previously "there were no monks, but only ascetics in the Church; from that time to the reign of Constantine, Monachism was confined to the anchorites living in private cells in the wilderness: but when Pachomius had erected monasteries in Egypt, other countries presently followed the example....Hilarion, who was scholar to Antonius, was the first monk that ever lived in Palestine or Syria." Bingham, VII. i. 4.

25

*meat sold his own birthright*¹. Enrolled henceforth in the Angelic books for thy profession of chastity, see that thou be not blotted out again for thy practice of fornication.

25. Nor again, on the other hand, in maintaining thy chastity be thou puffed up against those who walk in the humbler path of matrimony. For as the Apostle saith, *Let marriage be had in honour among all, and let the bed be undefiled*². Thou too who retainest thy chastity, wast thou not begotten of those who had married? Because thou hast a possession of gold, do not on that account reprobate the silver. But let those also be of good cheer, who being married use marriage lawfully; who make a marriage according to God's ordinance, and not of wantonness for the sake of unbounded license; who recognise seasons of abstinence, *that they may give themselves unto prayer*³; who in our assemblies bring clean bodies as well as clean garments into the Church; who have entered upon matrimony for the procreation of children, but not for indulgence.

26. Let those also who marry but once not reprobate those who have consented to a second marriage⁴: for though continence is a noble and admirable thing, yet it is also permissible to enter upon a second marriage, that the weak may not fall into fornication. For *it is good for them*, saith the Apostle, *if they abide even as I. But if they have not continency, let them marry: for it is better to marry than to burn*⁵. But let all the other practices be banished afar, fornication, adultery, and every kind of licentiousness: and let the body be kept pure for the Lord, that the Lord also may have respect unto the body. And let the body be nourished with food, that it may live, and serve without hindrance; not, however, that it may be given up to luxuries.

Concerning Meats.

27. And concerning food let these be your ordinances, since in regard to meats also many stumble. For some deal indifferently with things offered to idols⁶, while others discipline themselves, but condemn those that eat: and in different ways men's souls are defiled in the matter of meats, from ignorance of the useful reasons for eating and not eating. For we fast by abstaining from wine and flesh, not because we abhor them as abominations, but because we look for our reward; that having scorned things sensible, we may enjoy a spiritual and intellectual feast; and that *having now sown in tears we may reap in joy*⁷ in the world to come. Despise not therefore them that eat, and because of the weakness of their bodies partake of food: nor yet blame these who *use a little wine for their stomach's sake and their often infirmities*⁸: and neither condemn the men as sinners, nor abhor the flesh as strange food; for the Apostle knows some of this sort, when he says: *forbidding to marry, and commanding to abstain from meats, which God created to be received with thanksgiving by them that believe*⁹. In abstaining then from these things, abstain not as from things abominable¹⁰, else thou hast no reward: but as being good things disregard them for the sake of the better spiritual things set before thee.

28. Guard thy soul safely, lest at any time thou eat of things offered to idols: for concerning meats of this kind, not only I at this time, but ere now Apostles also, and James the bishop of this Church, have had earnest care: and the Apostles and Elders write a Catholic epistle to all the Gentiles, that they should *abstain first from things offered to idols, and then from blood also and from things strangled*¹¹. For many men being of savage nature, and living like dogs, both lap up blood¹², in imitation of the manner of the

¹[Heb. xii. 16.](#)

²[Heb. xiii. 4.](#)

³[1 Cor. vii. 5.](#)

⁴The condemnation of a second marriage, which the Benedictine Editor and others import into this passage, is not to be found in it. τοὺς δευτέρῳ γάμῳ συμπεριενεχθέντας neither means “qui ad secundas nuptias ultro se dejecere,” nor even “who have *involved* themselves” (R.W.C.), but simply “who have consented to,”—or, “consented together in—a second marriage,” without any intimation of censure. See V. 9; VI. 13: [Ecclesiasticus 25.1](#); γυνὴ καὶ ἀνὴρ ἑαυτοῖς συμπεριφερόμενοι; [2 Macc. ix. 27](#); Euseb. *H. E.* ix. 9, 7: ἀνεξικάκως καὶ συμμέτρως συμπεριφέροντο αὐτοῖς; Zeno, *ap. Diog. Laert.* vii. 18; τὸ συμπεριφερεσθαι τοῖς φίλοις. *Diog. Laert.* vii. 13: εὐσυμπερίφορος. Polyb. IV. 35, § 7, and II. 17, § 12. The gentleness with which Cyril here speaks of second marriages is in striking contrast with the passionate vehemence of Tertullian in the treatise *de Monogamia*, and elsewhere. Aug. *de Hæresibus*, cc. 26, 38, reckons the condemnation of second marriage among the heretical doctrines of the Montanists and Cathari. In the treatise *de Bono Viduitatis*, c. 6, he argues that a second marriage is not to be condemned, but is less honourable than widowhood, and severely rebukes the heretical teaching on this point of Tertullian, the Montanists, and the Novatians. *De Bono Conjugali*, c. 21: Sacramentum nuptiarum temporis nostri sic ad unum virum et unam uxorem redactum est, ut Ecclesiæ dispensatorem non liceat ordinare nisi unius uxoris virum. On the practice of the Church at various times see Bingham, IV. v. 1–4; Suicer, *Thesaur.* Διγαμία.

⁵[1 Cor. vii. 8, 9.](#)

⁶The Nicolaitans (*Apocal.* ii. 14, 20); and the Valentinians, of whom Irenæus (II. xiv. 5), says that they derived their opinion as to the indifference of meats from the Cynics. See also Irenæus I. vi. 3; and xxvi. 3.

⁷[Ps. cxxvi. 5.](#)

⁸[1 Tim. v. 23.](#)

⁹[1 Tim. iv. 3.](#)

¹⁰The various sects of Gnostics, and the Manichees, considered certain meats and drinks, as flesh and wine, to be polluting. Vid. Iren. *Hæer.* i. 28. Clem. *Pæd.* ii. 2. p. 186. Epiph. *Hæer.* xlv. 2, xlvii. 1, &c., &c. August. *Hæer.* 46, vid. Canon. *Apost.* 43. “If any Bishop, &c., abstain from marriage, flesh, and wine, not for discipline (δι’ ἄσκησην) but as abhorring them, forgetting that they are all very good, &c., and speaking blasphemy against the creation, let him amend or be deposed,” &c. R.W.C.

¹¹[Acts xv. 20, 29.](#) The prohibition of blood and things strangled has continued to the present day in the Eastern Church, though already disregarded by the Latins in the time of S. Augustine (*c. Faustum.* xxxii. 13).

¹²Tertullian (*Apologeticus*, c. 9) speaks of those “who at the gladiator shows, for the cure of epilepsy, quaff with greedy thirst the blood of criminals slain in the arena,” and of others “who make meals on the flesh of wild beasts at the place of combat:” and contrasts the habits of Christians, who abstain from things strangled, to avoid pollution by the blood.

26

fiercest beasts, and greedily devour things strangled. But do thou, the servant of Christ, in eating observe to eat with reverence. And so enough concerning meats.

Of Apparel.

29. But let thine apparel be plain, not for adornment, but for necessary covering: not to minister to thy vanity, but to keep thee warm in winter, and to hide the unseemliness of the body: lest under pretence of hiding the unseemliness, thou fall into another kind of unseemliness by thy extravagant dress.

Of the Resurrection.

30. Be tender, I beseech thee, of this body, and understand that thou wilt be raised from the dead, to be judged with this body. But if there steal into thy mind any thought of unbelief, as though the thing were impossible, judge of the things unseen by what happens to thyself. For tell me; a hundred years ago or more, think where wast thou thyself: and from what a most minute and mean substance thou art come to so great a stature, and so much dignity of beauty¹. What then? Cannot He who brought the non-existent into being, raise up again that which already exists and has decayed²? He who raises the corn, which is sown for our sakes, as year by year it dies,—will He have difficulty in raising us up, for whose sakes that corn also has been raised³? Seest thou how the trees stand now for many months without either fruit or leaves: but when the winter is past they spring up whole into life again as if from the dead⁴: shall not we much rather and more easily return to life? The rod of Moses was transformed by the will of God into the unfamiliar nature of a serpent: and cannot a man, who has fallen into death, be restored to himself again?

31. Heed not those who say that this body is not raised; for it is raised: and Esaias is witness, when he says: *The dead shall arise, and they that are in the tombs shall awake*⁵: and according to Daniel, *Many of them that sleep in the dust of the earth shall arise, some to everlasting life, and some to everlasting shame*⁶. But though to rise again is common to all men, yet the resurrection is not alike to all: for the bodies received by us all are eternal, but not like bodies by all: for the just receive them, that through eternity they may join the Choirs of Angels; but the sinners, that they may endure for ever the torment of their sins.

Of the Laver.

32. For this cause the Lord, preventing us according to His loving-kindness, has granted repentance at Baptism⁷, in order that we may cast off the chief—nay rather the whole burden of our sins, and having received the seal by the Holy Ghost, may be made heirs of eternal life. But as we have spoken sufficiently concerning the Laver the day before yesterday, let us now return to the remaining subjects of our introductory teaching.

Of the Divine Scriptures.

33. Now these the divinely-inspired Scriptures of both the Old and the New Testament teach us. For the God of the two Testaments is One, Who in the Old Testament foretold the Christ Who appeared in the New; Who by the Law and the Prophets led us to Christ's school. *For before faith came, we were kept in ward under the law, and, the law hath been our tutor to bring us unto Christ*⁸. And if ever thou hear any of the heretics speaking evil of the Law or the Prophets, answer in the sound of the Saviour's voice, saying, *Jesus came not to destroy the Law, but to fulfil it*⁹. Learn also diligently, and from the Church, what are the books of the Old Testament, and what those of the New. And, pray, read none of the apocryphal writings¹⁰: for why dost thou, who knowest not those which are acknowledged among all, trouble thyself in vain about those which are disputed? Read the Divine Scriptures, the twenty-two books of the Old Testament, these that have been translated by the Seventy-two Interpreters¹¹.

¹XVIII. 9.

²Compare xviii. 6, 9; Athenagoras, *On the Resurrection of the Dead*, c. 3.

³XVIII. 6. [John xii. 24](#); [1 Cor. xv. 36](#).

⁴XVIII. 7.

⁵[Is. xxvi. 19](#).

⁶[Dan. xii. 2](#).

⁷Gr. λουτροῦ μετάνοιαν. Other readings are λύτρον μετανοίας, “redemption by repentance,” and λουτρον μετανοίας “a laver (baptism) of repentance.”

⁸Gal. iii. 24. The Παιδαγωγός is described by Clement of Alexandria (*Paedag.* i. 7) as one who both conducts a boy to school, and helps to teach him,—an usher: “under-master” (Wicliff).

⁹Matt. v. 17.

¹⁰τῶν ἀποκρύφων. The sense in which Cyril uses this term may be learned from Rufinus (*Expositio Symboli*, § 38), who distinguishes three classes of books: (1) The Canonical Books of the Old and New Testaments, which alone are to be used in proof of doctrine; (2) Ecclesiastical, which may be read in Churches, including Wisdom, Ecclesiasticus, Tobit, Judith, and the Books of the Maccabees, in the Old Testament, and *The Shepherd of Hermas*, and *The Two Ways* in the New Testament; (3) The other writings they called “Apocryphal,” which they would not have read in Churches. The distinction is useful, though the second class is not complete.

¹¹The original source of this account of the Septuagint version is a letter purporting to have been written by Aristeas, or Aristæus, a confidential minister of Ptolemy Philadelphus, to his brother Philocrates. Though the letter is not regarded as genuine its statements are in part admitted to be true, being confirmed by a fragment, preserved by Eusebius (*Præparatio Evangelica*, ix. 6.), of a work of Aristobulus, a Jewish philosopher who wrote in the reign of Ptolemy Philometor, 181–146, B.C. Upon these testimonies it is generally admitted that “the whole Law,” i.e. the Pentateuch was translated into Greek at Alexandria in the reign either of Ptolemy Soter (323–285, B.C.), or of his son Ptolemy Philadelphus (285–247, B.C.), under the direction of Demetrius Phalereus, curator of the King’s library.

27

34. For after the death of Alexander, the king of the Macedonians, and the division of his kingdom into four principalities, into Babylonia, and Macedonia, and Asia, and Egypt, one of those who reigned over Egypt, Ptolemy Philadelphus, being a king very fond of learning, while collecting the books that were in every place, heard from Demetrius Phalereus, the curator of his library, of the Divine Scriptures of the Law and the Prophets, and judged it much nobler, not to get the books from the possessors by force against their will, but rather to propitiate them by gifts and friendship; and knowing that what is extorted is often adulterated, being given unwillingly, while that which is willingly supplied is freely given with all sincerity, he sent to Eleazar, who was then High Priest, a great many gifts for the Temple here at Jerusalem, and caused him to send him six interpreters from each of the twelve tribes of Israel for the translation¹. Then, further, to make experiment whether the books were Divine or not, he took precaution that those who had been sent should not combine among themselves, by assigning to each of the interpreters who had come his separate chamber in the island called Pharos, which lies over against Alexandria, and committed to each the whole Scriptures to translate. And when they had fulfilled the task in seventy-two days, he brought together all their translations, which they had made in different chambers without sending them one to another, and found that they agreed not only in the sense but even in words. For the process was no word-craft, nor contrivance of human devices: but the translation of the Divine Scriptures, spoken by the Holy Ghost, was of the Holy Ghost accomplished.

35. Of these read the two and twenty books, but have nothing to do with the apocryphal writings. Study earnestly these only which we read openly in the Church. Far wiser and more pious than thyself were the Apostles, and the bishops of old time, the presidents of the Church who handed down these books. Being therefore a child of the Church, trench² thou not upon its statutes. And of the Old Testament, as we have said, study the two and twenty books, which, if thou art desirous of learning, strive to remember by name, as I recite them. For of the Law the books of Moses are the first five, Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, Deuteronomy. And next, Joshua the son of Nave³, and the book of Judges, including Ruth, counted as seventh. And of the other historical books, the first and second books of the Kings⁴ are among the Hebrews one book; also the third and fourth one book. And in like manner, the first and second of Chronicles are with them one book; and the first and second of Esdras are counted one. Esther is the twelfth book; and these are the Historical writings. But those which are written in verses are five, Job, and the book of Psalms, and Proverbs, and Ecclesiastes, and the Song of Songs, which is the seventeenth book. And after these come the five Prophetic books: of the Twelve Prophets one book, of Isaiah one, of Jeremiah one, including Baruch and Lamentations and the Epistle⁵; then Ezekiel, and the Book of Daniel, the twenty-second of the Old Testament.

36. Then of the New Testament there are the four Gospels only, for the rest have false titles⁶ and are

mischievous. The Manichæans also wrote a Gospel according to Thomas, which being tintured with the fragrance of the evangelic title corrupts the souls of the simple sort. Receive also the Acts of the Twelve Apostles; and in addition to these the seven

¹Up to this point Cyril's account is based upon the statements of the Pseudo-Aristeas. The fabulous incidents which follow, concerning the separate cells, the completion of the whole version by each translator, the miraculous agreement in the very words, proving a Divine inspiration, are found in Philo Judæus, *Life of Moses*, II. 7. Josephus, *Antiquities*, XII. c. ii. 3–14, following the letter of Aristeas, gives long descriptions of the magnificent presents sent by Philadelphus to Jerusalem, and of his splendid hospitality to the translators, but makes no allusion to the separate cells or miraculous agreement. On the contrary he represents the 72 interpreters as meeting together for consultation, agreeing on the text to be adopted, and completing their joint labours in 72 days. The slightest comparison of the Version with the original Hebrew must convince any reasonable person that the idea of divine inspiration or supernatural assistance, borrowed by Justin Martyr, Irenæus, and other Fathers, apparently from Philo, is a mere invention of the imagination, disproved by the facts. Compare the article "Septuagint" in Murray's Dictionary of the Bible.

²The rendering "trench not" (R.W.C.) agrees well with the etymology of the verb (παρὰχαρασσώ). Its more usual signification seems to be "counterfeit," "forge." The sense required here, apart from any metaphor, is "transgress" (Heurtley).

³The name "Nun" is represented by "Nave" in the Septuagint, which Cyril used.

⁴The two books of Samuel.

⁵The Epistle of Jeremy, which now appears in the Apocrypha as the last chapter of Baruch. On the number and arrangement of the Books of the Old and New Testaments the student should consult an interesting Essay by Professor Sanday (*Studia Biblica*, vol. iii.), who traces the introduction of a fixed order to the time when papyrus *rolls* were superseded by *codices*, in which the sheets of skin were folded and bound together, as in printed books. This change had commenced before the Diocletian persecution, A.D. 303, when among the sacred books taken from the Christians *codices* were much more numerous than *rolls*. On the contents of the Jewish Canon, see Dictionary of the Bible, "Canon." B.F.W. "Josephus enumerates 20 books 'which are justly believed to be divine.'" One of the earliest attempts by a Christian to ascertain correctly the number and order of the Books of the O.T. was made by Melito, Bishop of Sardis, who travelled for this purpose to Palestine, in the latter part of the 2nd Century. His list is as follows:—"Of Moses five (books); Genesis, Exodus, Numbers, Leviticus, Deuteronomy, Jesus son of Nave, Judges, Ruth, four Books of Kings, two of Chronicles, Psalms of David, Solomon's Proverbs, which is also called Wisdom, Ecclesiastes, Song of Songs, Job, Prophets, Isaiah, Jeremiah, the Twelve in one Book, Daniel, Ezekiel, Esdras." (Eusebius, *H.E.* III. cap. 10, note I, in this series.) Cyril's List agrees with that of Athanasius (*Festal Epistle*, 373 A.D.), except that Job is placed by Ath. after Canticles instead of before Psalms.

⁶Gr. ψευδεπίγραφα. For an account of the many Apocryphal Gospels, see the article by Lipsius in the "*Dictionary of Christian Biography*," Smith and Wace, and the English translations in Clark's Ante-Nicene Library.

Catholic Epistles of James, Peter, John, and Jude; and as a seal upon them all, and the last work of the disciples, the fourteen Epistles of Paul¹. But let all the rest be put aside in a secondary rank. And whatever books are not read in Churches, these read not even by thyself, as thou hast heard me say. Thus much of these subjects.

37. But shun thou every diabolical operation, and believe not the apostate Serpent, whose transformation from a good nature was of his own free choice: who can over-persuade the willing, but can compel no one. Also give heed neither to observations of the stars nor auguries, nor omens, nor to the fabulous divinations of the Greeks². Witchcraft, and enchantment, and the wicked practices of necromancy, admit not even to a hearing. From every kind of intemperance stand aloof, giving thyself neither to gluttony nor licentiousness, rising superior to all covetousness and usury. Neither venture thyself at heathen assemblies for public spectacles, nor ever use amulets in sicknesses; shun also all the vulgarity of tavern-haunting. Fall not away either into the sect of the Samaritans, or into Judaism: for Jesus Christ henceforth hath ransomed thee. Stand aloof from all observance of Sabbaths³, and from calling any indifferent meats *common or unclean*. But especially abhor all the assemblies of

wicked heretics; and in every way make thine own soul safe, by fastings, prayers, almsgivings, and reading the oracles of God; that having lived the rest of thy life in the flesh in soberness and godly doctrine, thou mayest enjoy the one salvation which flows from Baptism; and thus enrolled in the armies of heaven by God and the Father, mayest also be deemed worthy of the heavenly crowns, in Christ Jesus our Lord, to Whom be the glory for ever and ever. Amen.

¹Cyril includes in this list all the books which we receive, except the Apocalypse. See Bishop Westcott's Article "Canon," in the *Dictionary of the Bible*, and Origen's Catalogue in Euseb. *Hist.* vi. 25 (Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers, vol. i.).

²Compare xix. 8. where all such acts of divination are said to be service of the devil.

³Compare [Gal. iv. 10](#), "Ye observe days."

29

Lecture V.

Of Faith.

[HEBREWS XI. 1, 2](#)

Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen. For by it the elders obtained a good report.

1. How great a dignity the Lord bestows on you in transferring you from the order of Catechumens to that of the Faithful, the Apostle Paul shews, when he affirms, *God is faithful, by Whom ye were called into the fellowship of His Son Jesus Christ*¹. For since God is called Faithful, thou also in receiving this title receivest a great dignity. For as God is called Good, and Just, and Almighty, and Maker of the Universe, so is He also called Faithful. Consider therefore to what a dignity thou art rising, seeing thou art to become partaker of a title of God².

2. Here then it is further required, that each of you be found faithful in his conscience: *for a faithful man it is hard to find*³: not that thou shouldest shew thy conscience to me, for thou art not to *be judged of man's judgment*⁴; but that thou shew the sincerity of thy faith to God, *who trieth the reins and hearts*⁵, and *knoweth the thoughts of men*⁶. A great thing is a faithful man, being richest of all rich men. For *to the faithful man belongs the whole world of wealth*⁷, in that he disdains and tramples on it. For they who in appearance are rich, and have many possessions, are poor in soul: since the more they gather, the more they pine with longing for what is still lacking. But the faithful man, most strange paradox, in poverty is rich: for knowing that we need only to have *food and raiment*, and being *therewith content*⁸, he has trodden riches under foot.

3. Nor is it only among us, who bear the name of Christ, that the dignity of faith is great⁹: but likewise all things that are accomplished in the world, even by those who are aliens¹⁰ from the Church, are accomplished by faith.

By faith the laws of marriage yoke together those who have lived as strangers: and because of the faith in marriage contracts a stranger is made partner of a stranger's person and possessions. By faith husbandry also is sustained, for he who believes not that he shall receive a harvest endures not the toils. By faith sea-faring men, trusting to the thinnest plank, exchange that most solid element, the land, for the restless motion of the waves, committing themselves to uncertain hopes, and carrying with them a faith more sure than any anchor. By faith therefore most of men's affairs are held together: and not among us only has there been this belief, but also, as I have said, among those who are without¹¹. For if they receive not the Scriptures, but bring forward certain doctrines of their own, even these they accept by faith.

4. The lesson also which was read to-day invites you to the true faith, by setting before you the way in which you also must please God: for it affirms that *without faith it is impossible to please Him*¹². For when will a man resolve to serve God, unless he believes that *He is a giver of reward*? When will a young woman choose a virgin life, or a young man live soberly, if they believe not that for chastity there is *a crown that fadeth not away*¹³? Faith is an eye that enlightens every conscience, and

¹[1 Cor. i. 9.](#)

²See Procatechesis 6, and Index, *Faithful*.

³[Prov. xx. 6.](#)

⁴[1 Cor. iv. 3.](#) See Index, *Confession*.

⁵[Ps. vii. 9.](#)

⁶[Ps. xciv. 11.](#)

⁷This sentence is a spurious addition to the text of the Septuagint, variously placed after [Prov. 17.4-6](#). The thought is there completed by the antithesis, *but to the faithless not even an obol*. The origin of the interpolation is unknown.

⁸[1 Tim. vi. 8.](#)

⁹It was a common objection of Pagan philosophers that the Christian religion was not founded upon reason but only on faith.

Cyril's answer that faith is necessary in the ordinary affairs of life is the same which Origen had employed against Celsus (I. 11): "Why should it not be more reasonable, since all human affairs are dependent upon faith, to believe God rather than men? For who takes a voyage, or marries, or begets children, or casts seeds into the ground, without believing that better things will result, although the contrary might and sometimes does happen?" See also Arnobius, *adversus Gentes*, II. 8; and Hooker's allusion to the scornful reproach of Julian the Apostate, "The highest point of your wisdom is *believe*" (*Eccles. Pol. V. lxiii. 1.*).

¹⁰By "aliens from the Church," and "those who are without," S. Cyril here means Pagans: so Tertullian, *de Idololatriâ*, c. xiv. But the latter term is applied to a Catechumen in Procatechesis. c. 12, and was also a common description of heretics: see Tertullian, *de Baptismo*, c. xv.

¹¹By "aliens from the Church," and "those who are without," S. Cyril here means Pagans: so Tertullian, *de Idololatriâ*, c. xiv. But the latter term is applied to a Catechumen in Procatechesis. c. 12, and was also a common description of heretics: see Tertullian, *de Baptismo*, c. xv.

¹²[Heb. xi. 6.](#)

¹³[1 Pet. v. 4.](#)

30

imparts understanding; for the Prophet saith, *And if ye believe not, ye shall not understand*¹.

Faith *stoppeth the mouths of lions*², as in Daniel's case: for the Scripture saith concerning him, that *Daniel was brought up out of the den, and no manner of hurt was found upon him, because he believed in his God*³. Is there anything more fearful than the devil? Yet even against him we have no other shield than faith⁴, an impalpable buckler against an unseen foe. For he sends forth divers arrows, and *shoots down in the dark night*⁵ those that

watch not; but, since the enemy is unseen, we have faith as our strong armour, according to the saying of the Apostle, *In all things taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked one*⁶. A fiery dart of desire of base indulgence is often cast forth from the devil: but faith, suggesting a picture of the judgment, cools down the mind, and quenches the dart.

5. There is much to tell of faith, and the whole day would not be time sufficient for us to describe it fully. At present let us be content with Abraham only, as one of the examples from the Old Testament, seeing that we have been made his sons through faith. He was justified not only by works, but also by faith⁷: for though he did many things well, yet he was never called the friend of God⁸, except when he believed. Moreover, his every work was performed in faith. Through faith he left his parents; left country, and place, and home through faith⁹. In like manner, therefore, as he was justified be thou justified also. In his body he was already dead in regard to offspring, and Sarah his wife was now old, and there was no hope left of having children. God promises the old man a child, and Abraham *without being weakened in faith, though he considered his own body now as good as dead*¹⁰, heeded not the weakness of his body, but the power of Him who promised, because *he counted Him faithful who had promised*¹¹, and so beyond all expectation gained the child from bodies as it were already dead. And when, after he had gained his son, he was commanded to offer him up, although he had heard the word, *In Isaac shall thy seed be called*¹², he proceeded to offer up his son, his only son, to God, believing *that God is able to raise up even from the dead*¹³. And having bound his son, and laid him on the wood, he did in purpose offer him, but by the goodness of God in delivering to him a lamb instead of his child, he received his son alive. Being faithful in these things, he was sealed for righteousness, *and received circumcision as a seal of the faith which he had while he was in uncircumcision*¹⁴, having received a promise *that he should be the father of many nations*¹⁵.

6. Let us see, then, how Abraham is the father of many nations¹⁶. Of Jews he is confessedly the father, through succession according to the flesh. But if we hold to the succession according to the flesh, we shall be compelled to say that the oracle was false. For according to the flesh he is no longer father of us all: but the example of his faith makes us all sons of Abraham. How? and in what manner? With men it is incredible that one should rise from the dead; as in like manner it is incredible also that there should be offspring from aged persons as good as dead. But when Christ is preached as having been crucified on the tree, and as having died and risen again, we believe it. By the likeness therefore of our faith we are adopted into the sonship of Abraham. And then, following upon our faith, we receive like him the spiritual seal, being circumcised by the Holy Spirit through Baptism, not in the foreskin of the body, but in the heart, according to Jeremiah, saying, *And ye shall be circumcised unto God in the foreskin of your heart*¹⁷: and according to the Apostle, *in the circumcision of Christ, having been buried with Him in baptism, and the rest*¹⁸.

7. This faith if we keep we shall be free from condemnation, and shall be adorned with all kinds of virtues. For so great is the strength of faith, as even to buoy men up in walking on the sea. Peter was a man like ourselves, made up of flesh and blood, and living upon like food. But when Jesus said, *Come*¹⁹, he believed, and walked upon the waters, and found his faith safer upon the waters than any ground; and his heavy body was upheld by the buoyancy of his faith. But though he had safe footing over the water as long as he believed, yet when he doubted, at once he began to sink: for as

¹[Is. vii. 9](#), according to the Septuagint. But A.V. and R.V. both render: *If ye will not believe, surely ye shall not be established*.

²[Heb. xi. 34](#).

³[Dan. vi. 23](#).

⁴[1 Pet. v. 9](#): *Whom resist, stedfast in the faith*.

⁵[Ps. xi. 2](#), *that they may shoot in darkness at the upright in heart* (R.V.). The Hebrew word נֶחֱמָה, signifying deep darkness ([Job iii. 6](#); [x. 22](#)) is vigorously rendered by the Seventy σκοτομίνη, which is explained by the Scholiast on Homer (Od. xiv. 457: Νύξ δ' ἄρ' ἐπὶ λθε κακῇ σκοτομίνῃος) to be the deep darkness of the night preceding the new moon.

⁶[Eph. vi. 16.](#)

⁷[James ii. 21.](#) Casaubon omitted *μόνον*, which is found in every ms., thus making the meaning to be, "He was justified not by works but by faith," which directly contradicts the statement of S. James, and is inconsistent with the following context in S. Cyril.

⁸[James ii. 23; 2 Chron. xx. 7; Is. xli. 8; Gen. xv. 6.](#)

⁹[Heb. xi. 8-10.](#)

¹⁰[Rom. iv. 19.](#)

¹¹[Heb. xi. 11, 12.](#)

¹²[Gen. xxi. 12; xxii. 2.](#)

¹³[Heb. xi. 19.](#)

¹⁴[Rom. iv. 11.](#)

¹⁵[Gen. xvii. 5.](#)

¹⁶[Rom. iv. 17, 18.](#)

¹⁷[Jer. iv. 4:](#) *Circumcise yourselves to the Lord, and take away the foreskins of your heart.* The Septuagint agrees closely with the Hebrew, but Cyril quotes freely from memory.

¹⁸[Col. ii. 11, 12.](#)

¹⁹[Matt. xiv. 29.](#)

31

his faith gradually relaxed, his body also was drawn down with it. And when He saw his distress, Jesus who remedies the distresses of our souls, said, *O thou of little faith, wherefore didst thou doubt*¹? And being nerved again by Him who grasped his right hand, he had no sooner recovered his faith, than, led by the hand of the Master, he resumed the same walking upon the waters: for this the Gospel indirectly mentioned, saying, *when they were gone up into the ship*². For it says not that Peter swam across and went up, but gives us to understand that, after returning the same distance that he went to meet Jesus, he went up again into the ship.

8. Yea, so much power hath faith, that not the believer only is saved, but some have been saved by others believing. The paralytic in Capernaum was not a believer, but they believed who brought him, and let him down through the tiles³: for the sick man's soul shared the sickness of his body. And think not that I accuse him without cause: the Gospel itself says, *when Jesus saw*, not his faith, but *their faith*, He saith to the sick of the palsy, *Arise*⁴! The bearers believed, and the sick of the palsy enjoyed the blessing of the cure.

9. Wouldest thou see yet more surely that some are saved by others' faith? Lazarus died⁵: one day had passed, and a second, and a third: his sinews⁶ were decayed, and corruption was preying already upon his body. How could one four days dead believe, and entreat the Redeemer on his own behalf? But what the dead man lacked was supplied by his true sisters. For when the Lord was come, the sister fell down before Him, and when He said, *Where have ye laid him?* and she had made answer, *Lord, by this time he stinketh; for he hath been four days dead*, the Lord said, *If thou believe, thou shalt see the glory of God*; as much as saying, Supply thou the dead man's lack of faith: and the sisters' faith had so much power, that it recalled the dead from the gates of hell. Have then men by believing, the one on behalf of the other, been able to raise⁷ the dead, and shalt not thou, if thou believe sincerely on thine own behalf, be much rather profited? Nay, even if thou be faithless, or of little faith, the

Lord is loving unto man; He condescends to thee on thy repentance: only on thy part say with honest mind, *Lord, I believe, help thou mine unbelief*⁸. But if thou thinkest that thou really art faithful, but hast not yet the fulness of faith, thou too hast need to say like the Apostles, *Lord, increase our faith*⁹: for some part thou hast of thyself, but the greater part thou receivest from Him.

10. For the name of Faith is in the form of speech¹⁰ one, but has two distinct senses. For there is one kind of faith, the dogmatic, involving an assent of the soul on some particular point: and it is profitable to the soul, as the Lord saith: *He that heareth My words, and believeth Him that sent Me, hath everlasting life, and cometh not into judgment*¹¹: and again, *He that believeth in the Son is not judged, but hath passed from death unto life*¹². Oh the great loving-kindness of God! For the righteous were many years in pleasing Him: but what they succeeded in gaining by many years of well-pleasing¹³, this Jesus now bestows on thee in a single hour. For if thou shalt believe that Jesus Christ is Lord, and that God raised Him from the dead, thou shalt be saved, and shalt be transported into Paradise by Him who brought in thither the robber. And doubt not whether it is possible; for He who on this sacred Golgotha saved the robber after one single hour of belief, the same shall save thee also on thy believing¹⁴.

11. But there is a second kind of faith, which is bestowed by Christ as a gift of grace. *For to one is given through the Spirit the word of wisdom, and to another the word of knowledge according to the same Spirit: to another faith, by the same Spirit, and to another gifts of healing*¹⁵. This faith then which is given of grace from the Spirit is not merely doctrinal, but also worketh things above man's power. For whosoever hath this faith, *shall say to this mountain, Remove hence to yonder place, and it shall remove*¹⁶. For whenever any one shall say this in faith, *believing that it cometh to pass, and shall not doubt in his heart, then receiveth he the grace*.

And of this faith it is said, *If ye have faith as a grain of mustard seed*¹⁷. For just as the grain of mustard seed is small in size, but fiery in its operation, and though sown in a small space has a circle of great branches, and when grown up is able even to shelter the fowls¹⁸; so, likewise, faith in the swiftest moment works the greatest effects in the

¹[Mark xiv. 31.](#)

²[Mark 14.32.](#)

³[Mark ii. 4.](#)

⁴[Matt. ix. 2, 6.](#)

⁵[John xi. 14-44.](#)

⁶νεῦρα. "Sinews" is the original meaning, the application to "nerves," as distinct organs of sensation, being later.

⁷For ἀναστῆναι, retained by the Benedictine Editor and Reischl, read ἀναστῆσαι, with Roe, Casaubon, and Alexandrides.

⁸[Mark ix. 24.](#)

⁹[Luke xvii. 5.](#)

¹⁰κατὰ τὴν προσηγορίαν. Compare Aristotle, *Categories*, V. 30: τῷ σχήματι τῆς προσηγορίας. Cyril's description of faith as twofold, and of dogmatic faith as an assent (συγκατάθεσις) of the soul to something as credible, seems to be derived from Clement of Alexandria, *Strom.* II. c. 12. Compare by all means Pearson on the Creed, Art. I. and his Notes a, b, c.

¹¹[John v. 24.](#)

¹²[John 3.18; 5.24.](#)

¹³ἐυαρεστήσεως, Bened. and Reischl, with best mss. Milles and the earlier editions have ἐρευνήσεως, “searching.”

¹⁴[Luke xxiii. 43](#); the argument is used again in Cat. xiii. 31.

¹⁵[1 Cor. xii. 8, 9.](#)

¹⁶[Mark xi. 23.](#)

¹⁷[Matt. xvii. 20.](#)

¹⁸[Matt. xiii. 32.](#)

32

soul. For, when enlightened by faith, the soul hath visions of God, and as far as is possible beholds God, and ranges round the bounds of the universe, and before the end of this world already beholds the Judgment, and the payment of the promised rewards. Have thou therefore that faith in Him which cometh from thine own self, that thou mayest also receive from Him that faith which worketh things above man¹.

12. But in learning the Faith and in professing it, acquire and keep that only, which is now delivered² to thee by the Church, and which has been built up strongly out of all the Scriptures. For since all cannot read the Scriptures, some being hindered as to the knowledge of them by want of learning, and others by a want of leisure, in order that the soul may not perish from ignorance, we comprise the whole doctrine of the Faith in a few lines. This summary I wish you both to commit to memory when I recite it³, and to rehearse it with all diligence among yourselves, not writing it out on paper⁴, but engraving it by the memory upon your heart⁵, taking care while you rehearse it that no Catechumen chance to overhear the things which have been delivered to you. I wish you also to keep this as a provision⁶ through the whole course of your life, and beside this to receive no other, neither if we ourselves should change and contradict our present teaching, nor if an adverse angel, *transformed into an angel of light*⁷ should wish to lead you astray. *For though we or an angel from heaven preach to you any other gospel than that ye have received, let him be to you anathema*⁸. So for the present listen while I simply say the Creed⁹, and commit it to memory; but at the proper season expect the confirmation out of Holy Scripture of each part of the contents. For the articles of the Faith were not composed as seemed good to men; but the most important points collected out of all the Scripture make up one complete teaching of the Faith. And just as the mustard seed in one small grain contains many branches, so also this Faith has embraced in few words all the knowledge of godliness in the Old and New Testaments. Take heed then, brethren, and *hold fast the traditions*¹⁰ which ye now receive, and *write them on the table of your heart*¹¹.

13. Guard them with reverence, lest per chance the enemy despoil any who have grown slack; or lest some heretic pervert any of the truths delivered to you. For faith is like putting money into the bank¹², even as we have now done; but from you God requires the accounts of the deposit. *I charge you, as the Apostle saith, before God, who quickeneth all things, and Christ Jesus, who before Pontius Pilate witnessed the good confession, that ye keep this faith which is committed to you, without spot, until the appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ*¹³. A treasure of life has now been committed to thee, and the Master demandeth the deposit at His appearing, *which in His own times He shall shew, Who is the blessed and only Potentate, the King of kings, and Lord of lords; Who only hath immortality, dwelling in light which no man can approach unto; Whom no man hath seen nor can see. To Whom be glory, honour, and power*¹⁴ for ever and ever. Amen.

¹S. Chrysostom (Hom. xxix. in [1 Cor. xii. 9, 10](#)) in like manner distinguishes dogmatic faith from the faith which is “the mother of miracles.” The former S. Cyril calls our own, not meaning that God’s help is not needed for it, but because, as he has shewn in § 10, it consists in the mind’s assent, and voluntary approval of the doctrines set before it: but the latter is a pure gift of grace working in man without his own help. Compare *Apostolic*

Constitutions, VIII. c. 1.

²This Lecture was to be immediately followed by a first recitation of the Creed. See Index, *Creed*.

³ἐπ' αὐτῆς τῆς λέξεως. "in ipsâ lectione" (Milles): "ipsis verbis" (Bened.): "in the very phrase" (R.W.C.). See below, note 4.

⁴Compare S. August. Sermon. ccxii., "At the delivery of the Creed," and Index, *Creed*.

⁵Compare Æschylus, *Prometheus* V. 789: ἦν ἐγγράφου σὺ μνήμοσιν δέλτοισ φρενῶν.

⁶ἐφόδιον, *Viaticum*, i.e. provision for a journey, and here for the journey through this life. It is applied metaphorically by other Fathers (a) in this general sense, to the reading of Holy Scripture, Prayer, and Baptism, and (b) in a special sense to the Holy Eucharist when administered to the sick and dying, as a preparation for departure to the life after death. Council of Nicæa (A.D. 325), Canon xiii. "With respect to the dying, the old rule of the Church should continue to be observed, which forbids that any one who is on the point of death should be deprived of the last and most necessary *viaticum* (ἐφόδιον)."

⁷[2 Cor. xi. 14.](#)

⁸[Gal. i. 8, 9.](#)

⁹ἐπ' αὐτῆς τῆς λέξεως. (Bened. Reischl. with best MSS.). ταύτης τῆς λέξεως, "this my recitation," (Milles).

¹⁰[2 Thess. ii. 15.](#) Compare Cat. xxiii. 23.

¹¹[Prov. vii. 3.](#) Note 9, above.

¹²[Matt. xxv. 27;](#) [Luke xix. 23.](#) See note on Catech. vi. 36: "Be thou a good banker."

¹³[1 Tim. v. 21;](#) [vi. 13, 14.](#)

¹⁴[1 Tim. vi. 15, 16.](#)

Lecture VI.

Concerning the Unity of God¹. On the Article, I Believe in One God. Also Concerning Heresies.

[ISAIAH XLV. 16, 17.](#) (SEPT.)

Sanctify yourselves unto Me, O islands. Israel is saved by the Lord with an everlasting salvation; they shall not be ashamed, neither shall they be confounded for ever, &c.

1. *Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ*². Blessed also be His Only-begotten Son³. For with the thought of *God* let the thought of *Father* at once be joined, that the ascription of glory to the Father and the Son may be made indivisible. For the Father hath not one glory, and the Son another, but one and the same, since He is the Father's Only-begotten Son; and when the Father is glorified, the Son also shares the glory with Him,

because the glory of the Son flows from His Father's honour: and again, when the Son is glorified, the Father of so great a blessing is highly honoured.

2. Now though the mind is most rapid in its thoughts, yet the tongue needs words, and a long recital of intermediary speech. For the eye embraces at once a multitude of the 'starry quire;' but when any one wishes to describe them one by one, which is the Morning-star, and which, the Evening-star, and which each one of them, he has need of many words. In like manner again the mind in the briefest moment compasses earth and sea and all the bounds of the universe; but what it conceives in an instant, it uses many words to describe⁴. Yet forcible as is the example I have mentioned, still it is after all weak and inadequate. For of God we speak not all we ought (for that is known to Him only), but so much as the capacity of human nature has received, and so much as our weakness can bear. For we explain not what God is but candidly confess that we have not exact knowledge concerning Him. For in what concerns God to confess our ignorance is the best knowledge⁵. Therefore magnify the Lord with me, and let us exalt His Name together⁶,—all of us in common, for one alone is powerless; nay rather, even if we be all united together, we shall yet not do it as we ought. I mean not you only who are here present, but even if all the nurslings of the whole Church throughout the world, both that which now is and that which shall be, should meet together, they would not be able worthily to sing the praises of their Shepherd.

3. A great and honourable man was Abra

¹Περὶ Θεοῦ Μοναρχίας. The word μοναρχία, as used by Plato (*Polit.* 291 C), Aristotle (*Polit.* III. xiv. 11. εἶδος μοναρχίας βασιλικῆς), Philo Judæus (*de Circumcisione*, § 2; *de Monarchia*, Titul.), means "sole government." Compare Tertullian (*adv. Praxean.* c. iii.): "If I have gained any knowledge of either language, I am sure that Μοναρχία has no other meaning than 'single and individual rule.'" Athanasius (*de Decretis Nicænæ Synodi*, § 26) has preserved part of an Epistle of Dionysius, Bishop of Rome (259–269, A.D.), against the Sabellians: "It will be natural for me now to speak against those who divide, and cut into pieces, and destroy that most sacred doctrine of the Church of God, the Monarchia, making it, as it were, three powers and divided hypostases, and three Godheads;" (*ibid.*): "It is the doctrine of the presumptuous Marcion to sever and divide the Monarchia into three origins (ἀρχάς)." We see here the sense which Μοναρχία had acquired in Christian Theology: it meant the "Unity of God," as the one principle and origin of all things. "By the Monarchy is meant the doctrine that the Second and Third Persons in the Ever-blessed Trinity are ever to be referred in our thoughts to the First, as the Fountain of Godhead" (Newman, Athanas. *de Decretis Nic. Syn.* § 26, note h). Justin Martyr (Euseb. *H.E.* IV. 18), and Irenæus (*ibid.* V. 20), had each written a treatise περὶ Μοναρχίας. On the history of Monarchianism see, in this Series, Athanasius, *Prolegomena*, p. xxiii. sqq.

²2 Cor. i. 3.

³This clause is omitted in some MSS. Various forms of the Doxology were adopted in Cyril's time by various parties in the Church. Thus Theodoret (*Hist. Eccles.* II. c. 19) relates that Leontius, Bishop of Antioch, A.D. 348–357, observing that the Clergy and the Congregation were divided into two parties, the one using the form "and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost," the other "through the Son, in the Holy Ghost," used to repeat the Doxology silently, so that those who were near could hear only "world without end."

The form which was regarded as the most orthodox, and adopted in the Liturgies ran thus: "Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost, now and ever, and to the ages of the ages." See Suicer's Thesaurus, Δοξολογία.

⁴Irenæus II. xxviii. 4: "But since God is all mind, all reason, all active Spirit, all light, and always exists as one and the same, such conditions and divisions (of operation) cannot fittingly be ascribed to Him. For our tongue, as being made of flesh, is not able to minister to the rapidity of man's sense, because that is of a spiritual nature; for which reason our speech is restrained (*suffocatur*) within us, and is not at once expressed as it has been conceived in the mind but is uttered by successive efforts, just as the tongue is able to serve it."

⁵Tertullian, *Apologeticus*, § 17: "That which is infinite is known only to itself. This it is which gives some notion of God, while yet beyond all our conceptions—our very incapacity of fully grasping Him affords us the idea of what He really is. He is presented to our minds in His transcendent greatness, as at once known and unknown." Cf. Phil. Jud. *de Monarch.* i. 4: Hooker, *Eccles. Pol.* I. ii. 3: "Whom although to know be life, and joy to make mention of

His name; yet our soundest knowledge is to know that we know Him not as He is, neither can know Him.”

[6Ps. xxxiv. 3.](#)

34

ham, but only great in comparison with men; and when he came before God, then speaking the truth candidly he saith, *I am earth and ashes*¹. He did not say ‘earth,’ and then cease, lest he should call himself by the name of that great element; but he added ‘*and ashes*,’ that he might represent his perishable and frail nature. Is there anything, he saith, smaller or lighter than ashes? For take, saith he, the comparison of ashes to a house, of a house to a city, a city to a province, a province to the Roman Empire, and the Roman Empire to the whole earth and all its bounds, and the whole earth to the heaven in which it is embosomed;—the earth, which bears the same proportion to the heaven as the centre to the whole circumference of a wheel, for the earth is no more than this in comparison with the heaven²: consider then that this first heaven which is seen is less than the second, and the second than the third, for so far Scripture has named them, not that they are only so many, but because it was expedient for us to know so many only. And when in thought thou hast surveyed all the heavens, not yet will even the heavens be able to praise God as He is, nay, not if they should resound with a voice louder than thunder. But if these great vaults of the heavens cannot worthily sing God’s praise, when shall ‘*earth and ashes*,’ the smallest and least of things existing, be able to send up a worthy hymn of praise to God, or worthily to speak of God, *that sitteth upon the circle of the earth, and holdeth the inhabitants thereof as grasshoppers*³.

4. If any man attempt to speak of God, let him first describe the bounds of the earth. Thou dwellest on the earth, and the limit of this earth which is thy dwelling thou knowest not: how then shalt thou be able to form a worthy thought of its Creator? Thou beholdest the stars, but their Maker thou beholdest not: count these which are visible, and then describe Him who is invisible, *Who telleth the number of the stars, and calleth them all by their names*⁴. Violent rains lately came pouring down upon us, and nearly destroyed us: number the drops in this city alone: nay, I say not in the city, but number the drops on thine own house for one single hour, if thou canst: but thou canst not. Learn then thine own weakness; learn from this instance the mightiness of God: for *He hath numbered the drops of rain*⁵, which have been poured down on all the earth, not only now but in all time. The sun is a work of God, which, great though it be, is but a spot in comparison with the whole heaven; first gaze stedfastly upon the sun, and then curiously scan the Lord of the sun. *Seek not the things that are too deep for thee, neither search out the things that are above thy strength: what is commanded thee, think thereupon*⁶.

5. But some one will say, If the Divine substance is incomprehensible, why then dost thou discourse of these things? So then, because I cannot drink up all the river, am I not even to take in moderation what is expedient for me? Because with eyes so constituted as mine I cannot take in all the sun, am I not even to look upon him enough to satisfy my wants? Or again, because I have entered into a great garden, and cannot eat all the supply of fruits, wouldst thou have me go away altogether hungry? I praise and glorify Him that made us; for it is a divine command which saith, *Let every breath praise the Lord*⁷. I am attempting now to glorify the Lord, but not to describe Him, knowing nevertheless that I shall fall short of glorifying Him worthily, yet deeming it a work of piety even to attempt it at all. For the Lord Jesus encourageth my weakness, by saying, *No man hath seen God at any time*⁸.

6. What then, some man will say, is it not written, *The little ones’ Angels do always behold the face of My Father which is in heaven*⁹? Yes, but the Angels see God not as He is, but as far as they themselves are capable. For it is Jesus Himself who saith, *Not that any man hath seen the Father, save He which is of God, He hath seen the Father*¹⁰. The Angels therefore behold as much as they can bear, and Archangels as much as they are able; and Thrones and Dominions more than the former, but yet less than His worthiness: for with the Son the Holy Ghost alone can rightly behold Him: for *He searcheth all things, and knoweth even the deep things of God*¹¹: as indeed the Only-begotten Son also, with the Holy Ghost, knoweth the Father fully: For *neither*, saith He, *knoweth any man the Father, save the Son, and he to whom the Son will reveal Him*¹². For He fully beholdeth, and, according as each can bear, revealeth God through the Spirit: since the Only-begotten Son together with the Holy Ghost is a partaker of the Father’s Godhead.

[1Gen. xviii. 27.](#)

²The opinion of Aristarchus of Samos, as stated by Archimedes (*Arenarius*, p. 320, Oxon), was that the sphere of

the fixed stars was so large, that it bore to the earth's orbit the same proportion as a sphere to its centre, or more correctly (as Archimedes explains) the same proportion as the earth's orbit round the sun to the earth itself. Compare Cat. xv. 24.

³[Is. xl. 22.](#)

⁴[Ps. cxlvii. 4.](#)

⁵[Job xxxvi. 27:](#) ἀριθμηταὶ δὲ αὐτῷ σταγόνες ὕετοῦ. R.V. *For He draweth up the drops of water.*

⁶[Ecclesiasticus 3.21.22.](#)

⁷[Ps. cl. 6.](#)

⁸[John i. 18.](#) They are the Evangelist's own words.

⁹[Matt. xviii. 10.](#)

¹⁰[John vi. 46.](#)

¹¹[1 Cor. ii. 10.](#)

¹²[Matt. xi. 27.](#)

35

He, who¹ was begotten knoweth Him who begat; and He Who begat knoweth Him who is begotten. Since Angels then are ignorant (for to each according to his own capacity doth the Only-begotten reveal Him through the Holy Ghost, as we have said), let no man be ashamed to confess his ignorance. I am speaking now, as all do on occasion: but how we speak, we cannot tell: how then can I declare Him who hath given us speech? I who have a soul, and cannot tell its distinctive properties, how shall I be able to describe its Giver?

7. For devotion it suffices us simply to know that we have a God; a God who is One, a living², an ever-living God; always like unto Himself³; who has no Father, none mightier than Himself, no successor to thrust Him out from His kingdom: Who in name is manifold, in power infinite, in substance uniform⁴. For though He is called Good, and Just, and Almighty and Sabaoth⁵, He is not on that account diverse and various; but being one and the same, He sends forth countless operations of His Godhead, not exceeding here and deficient there, but being in all things like unto Himself. Not great in loving-kindness only, and little in wisdom, but with wisdom and loving-kindness in equal power: not seeing in part, and in part devoid of sight; but being all eye, and all ear, and all mind⁶: not like us perceiving in part and in part not knowing; for such a statement were blasphemous, and unworthy of the Divine substance. He foreknoweth the things that be; He is Holy, and Almighty, and excelleth all in goodness, and majesty, and wisdom: of Whom we can declare neither beginning, nor form, nor shape. For *ye have neither heard His voice at any time, nor seen His shape*⁷, saith Holy Scripture. Wherefore Moses saith also to the Israelites: *And take ye good heed to your own souls, for ye saw no similitude*⁸. For if it is wholly impossible to imagine His likeness, how shall thought come near His substance?

8. There have been many imaginations by many persons, and all have failed. Some have thought that God is fire; others that He is, as it were, a man with wings, because of a true text ill understood, *Thou shalt hide me under the shadow of Thy wings*⁹. They forgot that our Lord Jesus Christ, the Only-begotten, speaks in like manner concerning Himself to Jerusalem, *How often would I have gathered thy children together even as a hen doth gather her chickens under her wings, and ye would not*¹⁰. For whereas God's protecting power was conceived as wings, they failing to understand this sank down to the level of things human, and supposed that the Unsearchable exists in the likeness of man. Some again dared to say that He has seven eyes, because it is written, *seven eyes of the Lord looking upon the whole earth*¹¹. For if He has but seven eyes surrounding Him in part, His seeing is therefore partial and not perfect: but to say this of God is blasphemous; for we must believe that God is in all

things perfect, according to our Saviour's word, which saith, *Your Father in heaven is perfect*¹²: perfect in sight, perfect in power, perfect in greatness, perfect in foreknowledge, perfect in goodness, perfect in justice, perfect in loving-kindness: not circumscribed in any space, but the Creator of all space, existing in all, and circumscribed by none¹³. *Heaven is His throne*, but higher is He that sitteth thereon: *and earth is His footstool*¹⁴, but His power reacheth unto things under the earth.

9. One He is, everywhere present, beholding all things, perceiving all things, creating all things through Christ: *For all things were made by Him, and without Him was not anything made*¹⁵. A fountain of every good, abundant and unfailing, a river of blessings, an eternal light of never-failing splendour, an insuperable power condescending to our infirmities: whose very Name we dare not hear¹⁶. *Wilt thou find a footstep of the Lord?* saith Job, *or hast thou attained unto the least things which the Almighty hath made*¹⁷? If the least of His works are incomprehensible, shall He be

¹The Benedictine and earlier printed texts read ὁ γεννηθεὶς [ἀπαθῶς πρὸ τῶν χρόνων αἰώνιων]: but the words in brackets are not found in the best mss. The false grammar betrays a spurious insertion, which also interrupts the sense. On the meaning of the phrase ὁ γεννηθεὶς ἀπαθῶς, see note on vii. 5: οὐ πάθει πατὴρ γενόμενος.

²Gr. ὄντα, ἀεὶ ὄντα.

³Iren. II. xiii. 3: "He is altogether like and equal to Himself; since He is all sense, and all spirit, and all feeling, and all thought, and all reason, and all hearing, and all ear, and all eye, and all light, and all a fount of every good,—even as the religious and pious are wont to speak of God."

⁴μονοειδῆ. A Platonic word. *Phædo*, 80 B: τῷ μὲν θεῷ καὶ ἀθανάτῳ καὶ νοητῷ καὶ μονοειδεῖ καὶ ἀδιαλύτῳ καὶ ἀεὶ ὡσαύτως κατὰ τὰ αὐτὰ ἔχοντι ἑαυτῷ ὁμοιότατον εἶναι ψυχὴν. See Index, "Hypostasis."

⁵Iren. II. xxxv. 3: "If any object that in the Hebrew language different expressions occur, such as Sabaoth, Elœ, Adonai, and all other such terms, striving to prove from these that there are different powers and Gods, let them learn that all expressions of this kind are titles and announcements of one and the same Being."

⁶See the passages of Irenæus quoted above, § 2 note 4, and § 7 note 3.

⁷[John v. 37.](#)

⁸[Deut. iv. 15.](#)

⁹[Ps. xvii. 8.](#)

¹⁰[Matt. xxiii. 37.](#)

¹¹[Zech. iv. 10.](#)

¹²[Matt. v. 48.](#)

¹³Philo Judæus (*Leg. Alleg.* I. 14. p. 52). Θεοῦ γὰρ οὐδὲ ὁ σύμπας κόσμος ἀξίον ἂν εἶη χωρίον καὶ ἐνδιαίτημα, ἐπεὶ αὐτὸς ἑαυτῷ τῆπος. So Sir Isaac Newton, at the end of the Principia, asserts that God by His eternal and infinite existence constitutes Time and Space: "Non est duratio vel spatium, sed durat et adest, et existendo semper et ubique spatium et durationem constituit."

¹⁴[Is. lxvi. 1.](#)

¹⁵[John i. 3.](#)

¹⁶The sacred name (יהוה) was not pronounced, but Adonai was substituted.

¹⁷[Job xi. 7](#) (R.V.): *Canst thou by searching find out God? Canst thou find out the Almighty unto perfection?* Cyril seems to have understood τὰ ἥσχατα as “the least,” not as “the utmost.”

36

comprehended who made them all? *Eye hath not seen, and ear hath not heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love Him*¹. If the things which God hath prepared are incomprehensible to our thoughts, how can we comprehend with our mind Himself who hath prepared them? *O the depth of the riches, and wisdom, and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are His judgments, and His ways past finding out*²! saith the Apostle. If His judgments and His ways are incomprehensible, can He Himself be comprehended?

10. God then being thus great, and yet greater, (for even were I to change my whole substance into tongue, I could not speak His excellence: nay more, not even if all Angels should assemble, could they ever speak His worth), God being therefore so great in goodness and majesty, man hath yet dared to say to a stone that he hath graven, *Thou art my God*³! O monstrous blindness, that from majesty so great came down so low! The tree which was planted by God, and nourished by the rain, and afterwards burnt and turned into ashes by the fire,—this is addressed as God, and the true God is despised. But the wickedness of idolatry grew yet more prodigal, and cat, and dog, and wolf⁴ were worshipped instead of God: the man-eating lion⁵ also was worshipped instead of God, the most loving friend of man. The snake and the serpent⁶, counterfeit of him who thrust us out of Paradise, were worshipped, and He who planted Paradise was despised. And I am ashamed to say, and yet do say it, even onions⁷ were worshipped among some. Wine was given *to make glad the heart of man*⁸: and Dionysus (Bacchus) was worshipped instead of God. God made corn by saying, *Let the earth bring forth grass, yielding seed after his kind and after his likeness*⁹, *that bread may strengthen man's heart*¹⁰: why then was Demeter (Ceres) worshipped? Fire cometh forth from striking stones together even to this day: how then was Hephæstus (Vulcan) the creator of fire?

11. Whence came the polytheistic error of the Greeks¹¹? God has no body: whence then the adulteries alleged among those who are by them called gods? I say nothing of the transformations of Zeus into a swan: I am ashamed to speak of his transformations into a bull: for bellows are unworthy of a god. The god of the Greeks has been found an adulterer, yet are they not ashamed: for if he is an adulterer let him not be called a god. They tell also of deaths¹², and falls¹³, and thunder-strokes¹⁴ of their gods. Seest thou from how great a height and how low they have fallen? Was it without reason then that the Son of God came down from heaven? or was it that He might heal so great a wound? Was it without reason that the Son came? or was it in order that the Father might be acknowledged? Thou hast learned what moved the Only-begotten to come down from the throne at God's right hand. The Father was despised, the Son must needs correct the error: for He THROUGH WHOM ALL THINGS WERE MADE must bring them all as offerings to the Lord of all. The wound must be healed: for what could be worse than this disease, that a stone should be worshipped instead of God?

Of Heresies.

12. And not among the heathen only did the devil make these assaults; for many of those who are falsely called Christians, and wrongfully addressed by the sweet name of Christ, have ere now impiously dared to banish God from His own creation. I mean the brood of heretics, those most ungodly men

¹[1 Cor. ii. 9.](#)

²[Rom. xi. 33.](#)

³[Is. xlv. 17.](#)

⁴The cat was sacred to the goddess Pasht, called by the Greeks Bubastis, and identified by Herodotus (ii. 137) with Artemis or Diana. Cats were embalmed after death, and their mummies are found at various places, but

especially at Bubastis (*Herod.* ii. 67).

“The Dogs are interred in the cities to which they belong, in sacred burial-places” (*Herod.* ii. 67), but chiefly at Cynopolis (“City of Dogs”) where the dog-headed deity Anubis was worshipped.

Mummies of wolves are found in chambers excavated in the rocks at Lycopolis, where Osiris was worshipped under the symbol of a wolf.

⁵The lion was held sacred at Leontopolis (Strabo, xvii. p. 812).

⁶“In the neighbourhood of Thebes there are sacred serpents perfectly harmless to man. These they bury in the temple of Zeus, the god to whom they are sacred.” (*Herod.* ii. 74.)

At Epidaurus in Argolis the serpent was held sacred as the symbol of Æsculapius. Clement of Alexandria (*Exhort.* c. ii.) gives a fuller list of animals worshipped by various nations. Compare also *Clement. Recogn.* V. 20.

⁷Juvenal *Sat.* xv. 7.

Illic aeluos, hic piscem fluminis, illic

Oppida tota canem venerantur, nemo Dianam.

Possum et caepe nefas violare et frangere morsu.

⁸[Ps. civ. 15.](#)

⁹[Gen. i. 11.](#)

¹⁰[Ps. civ. 15.](#)

¹¹The early Creeds of the Eastern Churches, like that which Eusebius of Cæsarea proposed at Nicæa, expressly declare the unity of God, in opposition both to the heathen Polytheism, and to the various heresies which introduced two or more Gods. See below in this Lecture, §§ 12–18; and compare Athan. (*contra Gentes*, § 6, *sqq.*)

¹²Clement of Alexandria (*Exhort.* cap. ii. § 37), quotes a passage from a hymn of Callimachus, implying the death of Zeus:

“For even thy tomb, O king,

The Cretans fashioned.”

Adonis, or “Thammuz yearly wounded,” was said to live and die in alternate years.

¹³By the word “falls” (ἀποπτώσεις) Cyril evidently refers to the story of Hephæstus, or Vulcan, to which Milton alludes (*Paradise Lost*, l. 740):—

“Men call’d him Mulciber, and how he fell

From heaven they fabled, thrown by angry Jove

Sheer o’er the crystal battlements: from morn

To noon he fell, from noon to dewy eve,

A summer's day."

¹⁴The "thunder-strokes" refer to "Titan heaven's first-born, With his enormous brood" (*Par. Lost*, l. 510). Cf. Virgil, *Æn.* vi. 580:—

"Hic genus antiquum Terræ, Titania pubes,

Fulmine dejecti fundo volvuntur in imo."

Ibid. v. 585:—

"Vidi et crudeles dantem Salmonea pœnas,

Dum flammas Jovis et sonitus imitatur Olympi."

Clem. Alex. (*Exhort.* II. § 37):—"Æsculapius lies struck with lightning in the regions of Cynosuris." Cf. Virg. *Æn.* vii. 770 ss.

37

of evil name, pretending to be friends of Christ but utterly hating Him. For he who blasphemes the Father of the Christ is an enemy of the Son. These men have dared to speak of two Godheads, one good and one evil¹! O monstrous blindness! If a Godhead, then assuredly good. But if not good, why called a Godhead? For if goodness is an attribute of God; if loving-kindness, beneficence, almighty power, are proper to God, then of two things one, either in calling Him God let the name and operation be united; or if they would rob Him of His operations, let them not give Him the bare name.

13. Heretics have dared to say that there are two Gods, and of good and evil two sources, and these unbegotten. If both are unbegotten it is certain that they are also equal, and both mighty. How then doth the light destroy the darkness? And do they ever exist together, or are they separated? Together they cannot be; *for what fellowship hath light with darkness?* saith the Apostle². But if they are far from each other, it is certain that they hold also each his own place; and if they hold their own separate places, we are certainly in the realm of one God, and certainly worship one God. For thus we must conclude, even if we assent to their folly, that we must worship one God. Let us examine also what they say of the good God. Hath He power or no power? If He hath power, how did evil arise against His will? And how doth the evil substance intrude, if He be not willing? For if He knows but cannot hinder it, they charge Him with want of power; but if He has the power, yet hinders not, they accuse Him of treachery. Mark too their want of sense. At one time they say that the Evil One hath no communion with the good God in the creation of the world; but at another time they say that he hath the fourth part only. Also they say that the good God is the Father of Christ; but Christ they call this sun. If, therefore according to them, the world was made by the Evil One, and the sun is in the world, how is the Son of the Good an unwilling slave in the kingdom of the Evil? We bemoire ourselves in speaking of these things, but we do it lest any of those present should from ignorance fall into the mire of the heretics. I know that I have defiled my own mouth and the ears of my listeners: yet it is expedient. For it is much better to hear absurdities charged against others, than to fall into them from ignorance: far better that thou know the mire and hate it, than unawares fall into it. For the godless system of the heresies is a road with many branches, and whenever a man has strayed from the one straight way, then he falls down precipices again and again.

14. The inventor of all heresy was Simon Magus³: that Simon, who in the Acts of the Apostles thought to purchase with money the unsaleable grace of the Spirit, and heard the words, *Thou hast neither part nor lot in this matter*⁴, and the rest: concerning whom also it is written, *They went out from us, but they were not of us; for if they had been of us, they would have remained with us*⁵. This man, after he had been cast out by the Apostles, came to Rome, and gaining over one Helena a harlot⁶, was the first that dared with blasphemous mouth to say that it was himself who appeared on Mount Sinai as the Father, and afterwards appeared among the Jews, not in real flesh but in seeming⁷, as Christ Jesus, and afterwards as the Holy Spirit whom Christ promised to send as the Paraclete⁸. And he so deceived the City of Rome that Claudius set up his statue, and wrote beneath it, in the language of the Romans, "Simoni Deo Sancto," which being interpreted signifies, "To Simon the Holy God⁹."

¹The theory of two Gods, one good and the other evil, was held by Cerdo, and Marcion (Hippolytus, *Refut. omnium Hær.* VII. cap. 17: Irenæus, III. xxv. 3, quoted in note on Cat. iv. 4). The Manichees also held that the Creator of the world was distinct from the Supreme God (Alexander Lycop. *de Manichæorum Sententiis*, cap. iii.).

²[2 Cor. vi. 14.](#) Cyril's description applies especially to the heresy of Manes. See § 36, note 3, at the end of this Lecture; also Cat. xi. 21. and Cat. xv. 3.

³So Irenæus (I. xxiii. 2) says that "from this Simon of Samaria all kinds of heresies derive their origin."

⁴[Acts viii. 18-21.](#)

⁵[1 John ii. 19.](#)

⁶Irenæus (I. xxiii. 2): "Having purchased from Tyre, a city of Phœnicia, a certain harlot named Helena, he used to carry her about with him, declaring that this woman was the first conception of his mind, the mother of all, by whom in the beginning he conceived in his mind the creation of Angels and Archangels."

⁷Cf. Epiphan. (*Hæres.* p. 55, B): "He said that he was the Son and had not really suffered, but only in appearance (δοκῆσαι)."

⁸Irenæus (I. xxiii. 1): "He taught that it was himself who appeared among the Jews as the Son, and descended in Samaria as the Father, but came to other nations as the Holy Spirit."

Cyril here departs from his authority by substituting Mount Sinai for Samaria, and thereby falls into error. Simon had first appeared in Samaria, being a native of Gitton: moreover in claiming to be the Father he meant to set himself far above the inferior Deity who had given the Law on Sinai, saying that he was "the highest of all Powers, that is the Father who is over all."

⁹"Justin Martyr in his first Apology, addressed to Antoninus Pius, writes thus (c. 26): 'There was one Simon a Samaritan, of the village called Gitton, who in the reign of Claudius Cæsar, and in your royal city of Rome, did mighty feats of magic by the art of dæmons working in him. He was considered a god, and as a god was honoured among you with a statue, which statue was set up in the river Tiber between the two bridges, and bears this inscription in Latin:

Simoni Deo Sancto;

which is,

To Simon the holy God.

"The substance of this story is repeated by Irenæus (*adv. Hær.* I. xxiii. 1), and by Tertullian (*Apol.* c. 13), who reproaches the Romans for installing Simon Magus in their Pantheon, and giving him a statue and the title 'Holy God.'

"In A.D. 1574, a stone, which had formed the base of a statue, was dug up on the site described by Justin, the Island in the Tiber, bearing an inscription—'Semoni Sanco Deo Fidio Sacrum, &c.' Hence it has been supposed that Justin mistook a statue of the Sabine God, 'Semo Sancus,' for one of Simon Magus. See the notes in Otto's Justin Martyr, and Stieren's Irenæus.

"On the other hand Tillemont (*Memoires*, t. ii. p. 482) maintains that Justin in an Apology addressed to the emperor and written in Rome itself cannot reasonably be supposed to have fallen into so manifest an error. Whichever view we take of Justin's accuracy concerning the inscription and the statue, there is nothing improbable in his statement that Simon Magus was at Rome in the reign of Claudius." (Extracted by permission from the Speaker's Commentary, *Introduction to the Epistle to the Romans*, p. 4.)

15. As the delusion was extending, Peter and Paul, a noble pair, chief rulers of the Church, arrived and set the error right¹; and when the supposed god Simon wished to shew himself off, they straightway shewed him as a corpse. For Simon promised to rise aloft to heaven, and came riding in a dæmons' chariot on the air; but the servants of God fell on their knees, and having shewn that agreement of which Jesus spake, that *If two of you shall agree concerning anything that they shall ask, it shall be done unto them*², they launched the weapon of their concord in prayer against Magus, and struck him down to the earth. And marvellous though it was, yet no marvel. For Peter was there, who carrieth the keys of heaven³: and nothing wonderful, for Paul was there⁴, who was *caught up to the third heaven, and into Paradise, and heard unspeakable words, which it is not lawful for a man to utter*⁵. These brought the supposed God down from the sky to earth, thence to be taken down to the regions below the earth. In this man first the serpent of wickedness appeared; but when one head had been cut off, the root of wickedness was found again with many heads.

16. For Cerinthus⁶ made havoc of the Church, and Menander⁷, and Carpocrates⁸, Ebionites⁹ also, and Marcion¹⁰, that mouthpiece of ungodliness. For he who proclaimed different gods, one the Good, the other the Just, contradicts the Son when He says, *O righteous Father*¹¹. And he who says again that the Father is one, and the maker of the world another, opposes the Son when He says, *If then God so clothes the grass of the field which to-day is, and to-morrow is cast into the furnace of fire*¹²; and, *Who maketh His sun to rise on the evil and on the good, and sendeth rain on the just and on the unjust*¹³. Here again is a second inventor of more mischief, this Marcion. For being confuted by the testimonies from the Old Testament which are quoted in the New, he was the first who dared to cut those testimonies out¹⁴, and leave the preaching of the word of faith without witness, thus effacing the true God: and sought to undermine the Church's faith, as if there were no heralds of it.

17. He again was succeeded by another, Basilides, of evil name, and dangerous character, a preacher of impurities¹⁵. The contest of wickedness was aided also by Valentinus¹⁶, a preacher of thirty gods. The Greeks tell of but few: and the man who was called—but more truly was not—a Christian extended the delusion to full thirty. He says, too, that Bythus the Abyss (for it became him as being an abyss of wickedness to begin his teaching from the Abyss) begat Silence, and of Silence begat the Word. This Bythus was worse than the Zeus of the Greeks, who was united to his sister: for Silence was said to be the child of Bythus. Dost thou see the absurdity invested with a show of Christianity? Wait a little, and thou wilt be shocked at his impiety; for he asserts that of this Bythus were begotten eight Æons; and of them, ten; and of them, other twelve, male and female. But whence is the proof of these things? See their silliness from their fabrications. Whence hast thou the proof of the thirty Æons? Because, saith he, it is written, that *Jesus was baptized*,

¹“Justin says not one word about St. Peter's alleged visit to Rome, and his encounter with Simon Magus.” But “Eusebius in his *Ecclesiastical History* (c. A.D. 325), quotes Justin Martyr's story about Simon Magus (*E. H.* ii. c. 13), and then, without referring to any authority, goes on to assert (c. 14) that ‘immediately in the same reign of Claudius divine Providence led Peter the great Apostle to Rome to encounter this great destroyer of life,’ and that he thus brought the light of the Gospel from the East to the West’ (*ibidem*).

Eusebius probably borrowed this story “from the strange fictions of the *Clementine Recognitions* and *Homilies*, and *Apostolic Constitutions*.” See *Recogn.* III. 63–65; *Hom.* I. 15, III. 58; *Apost. Constit.* VI. 7, 8, 9. Cyril's account of Simon's death is taken from the same untrustworthy sources.

²[Matt. xviii. 19.](#)

³[Matt. 16.19.](#)

⁴It is certain that S. Paul was not at Rome at this time. This story of Simon Magus and his ‘fiery car’ is told, with variations, by Arnobius (*adv. Gentes*, II. 12), and in *Apost. Constit.* VI. 9.

⁵[2 Cor. xii. 2, 4.](#)

⁶Cerinthus taught that the world was not made by the supreme God, but by a separate Power ignorant of Him. See Irenæus, *Hær.* I. xxvi., Euseb. *E.H.* iii. 28, with the notes in this Series.

⁷Menander is first mentioned by Justin M. (*Apolo.* I. cap. 26): “Menander, also a Samaritan, of the town Capparetæa, a disciple of Simon, and inspired by devils, we know to have deceived many while he was in Antioch by his magical art. He persuaded those who adhered to him that they should never die.” Irenæus (I. xxiii. 5) adds that Menander announced himself as the Saviour sent by the Invisibles, and taught that the world was created by Angels. See also Tertullian (*de Animâ*, cap. 50.)

⁸Carpocrates, a Platonic philosopher, who taught at Alexandria (125 A.D. *circ.*), held that the world and all things in it were made by Angels far inferior to the unbegotten (unknown) Father (Iren. I. xxv. 1; Tertullian, *Adv. Hær.* cap. 3).

⁹Irenæus, I. 26: “Those who are called Ebionites agree that the world was made by God; but their opinions with respect to the Lord are like those of Cerinthus and Carpocrates.”

¹⁰On Marcion, see note 5, on Cat. iv. 4.

¹¹[John xvii. 25.](#)

¹²[Luke xii. 28.](#)

¹³[Matt. v. 45.](#)

¹⁴Marcion accepted only St. Luke’s Gospel, and mutilated that (Tertullian, *Adv. Marcion.* iv. 2). He thus got rid of the testimony of the Apostles and eye-witnesses, Matthew and John, and represented the Law and the Gospel as contradictory revelations of two different Gods. For this Cyril calls him ‘a second inventor of mischief,’ Simon Magus (§ 14) being the first.

¹⁵Basilides was earlier than Marcion, being the founder of a Gnostic sect at Alexandria in the reign of Hadrian (A.D. 117–138). His doctrines are described by Irenæus (I. xxvii. 3–7), and very fully by Hippolytus (*Refut. omn. Hær.* VII. 2–15). The charge of teaching licentiousness attaches rather to the later followers of Basilides than to himself or his son Isidorus (Clem. Alex. *Stromat.* III. cap. 1). Basilides wrote a Commentary on the Gospel in 24 books (*Exegetica*), of which the 23rd is quoted by Clement of Alexandria (*Stromat.* IV. cap. 12), and against which Agrippa Castor wrote a refutation. Origen (*Hom. I. in Lucam.*) says that Basilides wrote a Gospel bearing his own name. See Routh, *Rel. Sacr.* I. p. 85; V. p. 106: Westcott, *History of Canon of N.T.* iv. § 3.

¹⁶“The doctrines of Valentinus are described fully by Irenæus (I. cap. i.) from whom S. Cyril takes this account. Valentinus, and Basilides, and Bardesanes, and Harmonious, and those of their company admit Christ’s conception and birth of the Virgin, but say that God the Word received no addition from the Virgin, but made a sort of passage through her, as through a tube, and made use of a phantom in appearing to men.” (Theodoret, *Epist.* 145.)

39

*being thirty years old*¹. But even if He was baptized when thirty years old, what sort of demonstration is this from the thirty years? Are there then five gods, because He brake five loaves among five thousand? Or because he had twelve Disciples, must there also be twelve gods?

18. And even this is still little compared with the impieties which follow. For the last of the deities being, as he dares to speak, both male and female, this, he says, is Wisdom². What impiety! For *the Wisdom of God*³ is Christ His Only-begotten Son: and he by his doctrine degraded the Wisdom of God into a female element, and one of thirty, and the last fabrication. He also says that Wisdom attempted to behold the first God, and not bearing His brightness fell from heaven, and was cast out of her thirtieth place. Then she groaned, and of her groans begat the Devil⁴, and as she wept over her fall made of her tears the sea. Mark the impiety. For of Wisdom how is the Devil begotten, and of prudence wickedness, or of light darkness? He says too that the Devil begat others, some of whom created the world: and that the Christ came down in order to make mankind revolt from the Maker of the world.

19. But hear whom they say Christ Jesus to be, that thou mayest detest them yet more. For they say that after

Wisdom had been cast down, in order that the number of the thirty might not be incomplete, the nine and twenty Æons contributed each a little part, and formed the Christ⁵: and they say that He also is both male and female⁶. Can anything be more impious than this? Anything more wretched? I am describing their delusion to thee, in order that thou mayest hate them the more. Shun, therefore, their impiety, and *do not even give greeting to*⁷ a man of this kind, lest thou have *fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness*⁸: neither make curious inquiries, nor be willing to enter into conversation with them.

20. Hate all heretics, but especially him who is rightly named after mania⁹, who arose not long ago in the reign of Probus¹⁰. For the delusion began full seventy years ago¹¹, and there are men still living who saw him with their very eyes. But hate him not for this, that he lived a short time ago; but because of his impious doctrines hate thou the worker of wickedness, the receptacle of all filth, who gathered up the mire of every heresy¹². For aspiring to become pre-eminent among wicked men, he took the doctrines of all, and having combined them into one heresy filled with blasphemies and all iniquity, he makes havoc of the Church, or rather of those outside the Church, roaming about like a lion and devouring. Heed not their fair speech, nor their supposed humility: for they are serpents, *a generation of vipers*¹³. Judas too said *Hail! Master*¹⁴, even while he was betraying Him. Heed not their kisses, but beware of their venom.

21. Now, lest I seem to accuse him without reason, let me make a digression to tell who this Manes is, and in part what he teaches: for all time would fail to describe adequately the whole of his foul teaching. But *for help in time of need*¹⁵, store up in thy memory what I have said to former hearers, and will repeat to those now present, that they who know not may learn, and they who know may be reminded. Manes is not of Christian origin, God forbid! nor was he like Simon cast out of the Church, neither himself nor the teachers who were before him. For he steals other men's wickedness, and makes their wickedness his own: but how and in what manner thou must hear.

22. There was in Egypt one Scythianus¹⁶, a

¹[Luke iii. 23.](#)

²[Irenæus I. ii. 2.](#)

³[1 Cor. i. 24.](#)

⁴[Irenæus, I. c., and Hippolytus, who gives an elaborate account of the doctrines of Valentinus \(L. VI. capp. xvi.–xxxii.\), both represent Sophia, "Wisdom," as giving birth not to Satan, but to a shapeless abortion, which was the origin of matter. According to Irenæus \(I. iv. 2\), Achamoth, the enthymsis of Sophia, gave birth to the Demiurge, and "from her tears all that is of a liquid nature was formed."](#)

In Tertullian's *Treatise against the Valentinians* chap. xxii., Achamoth is said as by Cyril to have given birth to Satan: but in chap. xxiii. Satan seems to be identified (or interchanged) with the Demiurge.

⁵The account in Irenæus (I. ii. 6) is rather different: "The whole Pleroma of the Æons, with one design and desire, and with the concurrence of the Christ and the Holy Spirit, their Father also setting the seal of His approval on their conduct, brought together whatever each one had in himself of the greatest beauty and preciousness; and uniting all these contributions so as skilfully to blend the whole, they produced, to the honour and glory of Bythus, a being of most perfect beauty, the very star of the Pleroma, and its perfect fruit, namely Jesus."

Tertullian, *Against the Valentinians*, chap. 12, gives a sarcastic description of this strange doctrine, deriving his facts (chap. 5) from Justin, Miltiades, "Irenæus, that very exact inquirer into all doctrines," and Proculus.

⁶This statement does not agree with Irenæus (I. vii. 1), who says that the Valentinians represented the Saviour, that is Jesus, as becoming the bridegroom of Achamoth or Sophia.

⁷[2 John 10, 11:](#) "Neither bid him God speed" (A.V.): "give him no greeting" (R.V.).

⁸[Ephes. v. 11.](#)

⁹Eusebius in his brief notice of the Manichean heresy (*Hist. Eccles.* vii. 31) plays, like S. Cyril, upon the name Manes as well suited to a madman.

¹⁰Marcus Aurelius Probus, Emperor A.D. 276–282, from being an obscure Illyrian soldier came to be universally esteemed the best and noblest of the Roman Emperors.

¹¹Routh (*R.S. V.* p. 12) comes to the conclusion that the famous disputation between Manes and Archelaus took place between July and December, A.D. 277. Accordingly these Lectures, being “full 70 years” later, could not have been delivered before the Spring of A.D. 348.

¹²Leo the Great (*Serm.* xv. cap. 4) speaks of the madness of the later Manichees as including all errors and impieties: “all profanity of Paganism, all blindness of the carnal Jews, the illicit secrets of the magic art, the sacrilege and blasphemy of all heresies, flowed together in that sect as into a sort of cess-pool of all filth.” Leo summoned those whom they called the “elect,” both men and women, before an assembly of Bishops and Presbyters, and obtained from these witnesses a full account of the execrable practices of the sect, in which, as he declares, “their law is lying, their religion the devil, their sacrifice obscenity.”

¹³[Matt. iii. 7.](#)

¹⁴[Matt. 26.49.](#)

¹⁵[Heb. iv. 16.](#)

¹⁶Cyril takes his account of Manes from the “*Acta Archelai et Manetis Disputationis*,” of which Routh has edited the Latin translation together with the Fragments of the Greek preserved by Cyril in this Lecture and by Epiphanius. There is an English translation of the whole in Clark’s “Ante-Nicene Christian Library.”

40

Saracen¹ by birth, having nothing in common either with Judaism or with Christianity. This man, who dwelt at Alexandria and imitated the life of Aristotle², composed four books³, one called a Gospel which had not the acts of Christ, but the mere name only, and one other called the book of Chapters, and a third of Mysteries, and a fourth, which they circulate now, the Treasure⁴. This man had a disciple, Terebinthus by name. But when Scythianus purposed to come into Judæa, and make havoc of the land, the Lord smote him with a deadly disease, and stayed the pestilence⁵.

23. But Terebinthus, his disciple in this wicked error, inherited his money and books and heresy⁶, and came to Palestine, and becoming known and condemned in Judæa⁷ he resolved to pass into Persia: but lest he should be recognised there also by his name he changed it and called himself Buddas⁸. However, he found adversaries there also in the priests of Mithras⁹: and being confuted in the discussion of many arguments and controversies, and at last hard pressed, he took refuge with a certain widow. Then having gone up on the housetop, and summoned the dæmons of the air, whom the Manichees to this day invoke over their abominable ceremony of the fig¹⁰, he was smitten of God, and cast down from the housetop, and expired: and so the second beast was cut off.

24. The books, however, which were the records of his impiety, remained; and both these and his money the widow inherited. And having neither kinsman nor any other friend, she determined to buy with the money a boy named Cubricus¹¹: him she adopted and educated as a son in the learning of the Persians, and thus sharpened an evil weapon against mankind. So Cubricus, the vile slave, grew up in the midst of philosophers, and on the death of the widow inherited both the books and the money. Then, lest the name of slavery might be a reproach, instead of Cubricus he called himself Manes, which in the language of the Persians signifies discourse¹². For as he thought himself something of a disputant, he surnamed himself Manes, as it were an excellent master of discourse. But though he contrived for himself an honourable title according to the language of the Persians, yet the providence of God caused him to become a self-accuser even against his will, that through thinking to honour himself in Persia, he might proclaim himself among the Greeks by name a maniac.

25. He dared too to say that he was the Paraclete, though it is written, *But whosoever shall blaspheme against the*

*Holy Ghost, hath no forgiveness*¹³. He committed blasphemy therefore by saying that he was the Holy Ghost: let him that communicates with those heretics see with whom he is enrolling himself. The slave shook the world, since *by three things the earth is shaken, and the fourth it cannot bear,—if a slave became a king*¹⁴. Having come into public he now began to promise things above man's power. The son of the King of the Persians was sick, and a multitude of physicians were in attendance: but Manes promised, as if he were a godly man, to cure him by prayer. With the departure of the physicians, the life of the child departed: and the man's impiety was detected. So the would-be philosopher was a prisoner, being cast into prison not for reproving the king in the cause of truth, not for destroying the idols, but for promising to save and lying, or rather, if the truth must be told, for committing murder. For the child who might have been saved by medical treatment, was murdered by this man's driving away the physicians, and killing him by want of treatment.

26. Now as there are very many wicked things which I tell thee of him, remember first his blasphemy, secondly his slavery (not that slavery is a disgrace, but that his pretending to be free-born, when he was a slave, was wicked), thirdly, the falsehood of his promise, fourthly, the murder of the child, and fifthly,

¹The Saracens are mentioned by both Pliny and Ptolemy. See *Dict. of Greek and Roman Geography*.

²There is no mention of Aristotle in the *Acta Archelai*, but Scythianus is stated (cap. li.) to have founded the sect in the time of the Apostles, and to have derived his duality of Gods from Pythagoras, and to have learned the wisdom of the Egyptians.

³These four books are stated by Archelaus (*Acta*, cap. lii.), to have been written for Manes by his disciple Terebinthus.

⁴In allusion to this name the history of the Disputation is called (*Acta*, cap. i.) "The true Treasure."

⁵The true reading of this sentence, προαιρούμενον τὸν Σκυθιανόν, instead of τὸν πρόειρημένον Σκ., has been restored by Cleopas from the ms. in the Archiepiscopal library at Jerusalem. This reading agrees with the statement in *Acta Archel.* cap. li.: "Scythianus thought of making an excursion into Judæa, with the purpose of meeting all those who had a reputation there as teachers; but it came to pass that he suddenly departed this life, without having been able to make any progress."

⁶This statement agrees with the reading of the Vatican ms. of the *Acta Archelai*, "omnibus quæcunque ejus fuerunt congratis."

⁷In the *Acta* there is no mention of Palestine, but only that he "set out for Babylonia, a province which is now held by the Persians."

⁸Clem. Alex. (*Strom.* i. 15): "Some also of the Indians obey the precepts of Boutta, and honour him as a god for his extraordinary sanctity."

⁹Cf. *Acta Arch.* cap. lii.: "A certain Parcus, however, a prophet, and Labdacus, son of Mithras, charged him with falsehood." On the name Parcus and Labdacus, see *Dict. Chr. Biogr.*, "Barcabbas," and on the Magian worship of the Sun-god Mithras, see Rawlinson (*Herodot.* Vol. I. p. 426).

¹⁰See below, § 33.

¹¹Cf. *Acta Arch.* cap. liii. "A boy about seven years old, named Corbicus."

¹²See a different account in *Dict. Chr. Biogr.*, "Manes."

¹³Mark iii. 29.

¹⁴Prov. xxx. 21, 22.

the disgrace of the imprisonment. And there was not only the disgrace of the prison, but also the flight from prison. For he who called himself the Paraclete and champion of the truth, ran away: he was no successor of Jesus, who readily went to the Cross, but this man was the reverse, a runaway. Moreover, the King of the Persians ordered the keepers of the prison to be executed: so Manes was the cause of the child's death through his vain boasting, and of the gaolers' death through his flight. Ought then he, who shared the guilt of murder, to be worshipped? Ought he not to have followed the example of Jesus, and said, *If ye seek Me, let these go their way*¹? Ought he not to have said, like Jonas, *Take me, and cast me into the sea: for this storm is because of me*²?

27. He escapes from the prison, and comes into Mesopotamia: but there Bishop Archelaus, a shield of righteousness, encounters him³: and having accused him before philosophers as judges, and having assembled an audience of Gentiles, lest if Christians gave judgment, the judges might be thought to shew favour,—Tell us what thou preachest, said Archelaus to Manes. And he, whose *mouth was as an open sepulchre*⁴, began first with blasphemy against the Maker of all things, saying, The God of the Old Testament is the author of evils, as He says of Himself, *I am a consuming fire*⁵. But the wise Archelaus undermined his blasphemous argument by saying, "If the God of the Old Testament, as thou sayest, calls Himself a fire, whose Son is He who saith, *I came to send fire on the earth*⁶? If thou findest fault with Him who saith, The Lord killeth, and maketh alive⁷, why dost thou honour Peter, who raised up Tabitha, but struck Sapphira dead? If again thou findest fault, because He prepared fire, wherefore dost thou not find fault with Him who saith, *Depart from Me into everlasting fire*⁸? If thou findest fault with Him who saith, *I am God that make peace, and create evil*⁹, explain how Jesus saith, I came not to send peace but a sword¹⁰. Since both speak alike, of two things one, either both are good, because of their agreement, or if Jesus is blameless in so speaking. why blamest thou Him that saith the like in the Old Testament?"

28. Then Manes answers him: "And what sort of God causes blindness? For it is Paul who saith, *In whom the God of this world hath blinded the minds of them that believe not, lest the light of the Gospel should shine unto them*¹¹." But Archelaus made a good retort, saying, "Read a little before: *But if our Gospel is veiled, it is veiled in them that are perishing*¹². Seest thou that in them that are perishing it is veiled? For it is not right to give the things which are holy unto the dogs¹³. Again, Is it only the God of the Old Testament that hath blinded the minds of them that believe not? Hath not Jesus Himself said, *For this cause speak I unto them in parables, that seeing they may not see*¹⁴? Was it from hating them that He wished them not to see? Or because of their unworthiness, since *their eyes they had closed*¹⁵. For where there is wilful wickedness, there is also a withholding of grace: *for to him that hath shall be given; but from him that hath not shall be taken even that which he seemeth to have*¹⁶."

29. "But if some are right in their interpretation, we must say as follows¹⁷ (for it is no unworthy expression)—If indeed He blinded the thoughts of them that believe not he blinded them for a good purpose, that they might look with new sight on what is good. For he said not, He blinded their soul, but, *the thoughts of them that believe not*¹⁸. And the meaning is something of this kind: 'Blind the lewd thoughts of the lewd, and the man is saved: blind the grasping and rapacious thought of the robber, and the man is saved.' But wilt thou not understand it thus? Then there is yet another interpretation. The sun also blinds those whose sight is dim: and they whose eyes are diseased are hurt by the light and blinded. Not that the sun's nature is to blind, but that the substance of the eyes is incapable of seeing. In like manner unbelievers being diseased in their heart cannot look upon the radiance of the Godhead. Nor hath he said, *'He hath blinded their thoughts, that they should not hear the Gospel.'* but, *that the light of the glory of the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ should not shine unto them.* For to hear the Gospel is permitted to all: but the glory of the Gospel is reserved for Christ's

¹John xviii. 8.

²Jonah i. 12.

³The account of the discussion in this and the two following chapters is not now found in the Latin Version of the "Disputation," but is regarded by Dr. Routh as having been derived by Cyril from some different copies of the Greek. The last paragraph of § 29, "These mysteries, &c.," is evidently a caution addressed to the hearers by Cyril himself (Routh, *Rel. Sac.* V. 199).

⁴[Ps. v. 9.](#)

⁵[Deut. iv. 24.](#)

⁶[Luke xii. 49.](#)

⁷[1 Sam. ii. 6.](#)

⁸[Matt. xxv. 41.](#)

⁹[Is. xlv. 7.](#)

¹⁰[Matt. x. 34.](#)

¹¹[2 Cor. iv. 4.](#) νοήματα, “thoughts.”

¹²[2 Cor. iv. 3.](#)

¹³[Matt. vii. 6.](#)

¹⁴[Matt. xiii. 13.](#) Both A.V. and R.V. follow the better reading: “because seeing they see not, &c.”

¹⁵[Matt. xiii. 15.](#)

¹⁶[Matt. 25.29; Luke 8.18.](#)

¹⁷Instead of the reading of the Benedictine and earlier editions, εἰ δὲ δεῖ καὶ ὥς τινες ἐξηγοῦνται τοῦτο εἰπεῖν, the mss. Roe and Casaubon combine δεῖ καὶ ὥς into the one word δικαίως, which is probably the right reading. Something, however, is still wanted to complete the construction, and Petrus Siculus (*circ.* A.D. 870) who quotes the passage in his *History of the Manichees*, boldly conjectures ἔστι καὶ οὕτως εἰπεῖν. A simpler emendation would be—εἰ δὲ δικαίως τινες ἐξηγοῦνται, δεῖ τοῦτο εἰπεῖν—which both completes the construction and explains the reading δεῖ καὶ ὥς.

¹⁸νοήματα, [2 Cor. iv. 4.](#)

42

true children only. Therefore the Lord spoke in parables to those who could not hear¹: but to the Disciples he explained the parables in private²: for the brightness of the glory is for those who have been enlightened, the blinding for them that believe not.” These mysteries, which the Church now explains to thee who art passing out of the class of Catechumens, it is not the custom to explain to heathen. For to a heathen we do not explain the mysteries concerning Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, nor before Catechumens do we speak plainly of the mysteries: but many things we often speak in a veiled way, that the believers who know may understand, and they who know not may get no hurt³.

30. By such and many other arguments the serpent was overthrown: thus did Archelaus wrestle with Manes and threw him. Again, he who had fled from prison flees from this place also: and having run away from his antagonist, he comes to a very poor village, like the serpent in Paradise when he left Adam and came to Eve. But the good shepherd Archelaus taking forethought for his sheep, when he heard of his flight, straightway hastened with all speed in search of the wolf. And when Manes suddenly saw his adversary, he rushed out and fled: it was however his last flight. For the officers of the King of Persia searched everywhere, and caught the fugitive: and the sentence, which he ought to have received in the presence of Archelaus, is passed upon him by the king's officers. This Manes, whom his own disciples worship, is arrested and brought before the king. The king reproached him with his falsehood and his flight: poured scorn upon his slavish condition, avenged the murder of

his child, and condemned him also for the murder of the gaolers: he commands him to be flayed after the Persian fashion. And while the rest of his body was given over for food of wild beasts, his skin, the receptacle of his vile mind, was hung up before the gates like a sack⁴. He that called himself the Paraclete and professed to know the future, knew not his own flight and capture.

31. This man has had three disciples, Thomas, and Baddas, and Hermas. Let none read the Gospel according to Thomas⁵: for it is the work not of one of the twelve Apostles, but of one of the three wicked disciples of Manes. Let none associate with the soul-destroying Manicheans, who by decoctions of chaff counterfeit the sad look of fasting, who speak evil of the Creator of meats, and greedily devour the daintiest, who teach that the man who plucks up this or that herb is changed into it. For if he who crops herbs or any vegetable is changed into the same, into how many will husbandmen and the tribe of gardeners be changed⁶? The gardener, as we see, has used his sickle against so many: into which then is he changed? Verily their doctrines are ridiculous, and fraught with their own condemnation and shame! The same man, being the shepherd of a flock, both sacrifices a sheep and kills a wolf. Into what then is he changed? Many men both net fishes and lime birds: into which then are they transformed?

32. Let those children of sloth, the Manicheans, make answer; who without labouring themselves eat up the labourers' fruits: who welcome with smiling faces those who bring them their food, and return curses instead of blessings. For when a simple person brings them anything, "Stand outside a while," saith he, "and I will bless thee." Then having taken the bread into his hands (as those who have repented and left them have confessed), "I did not make thee," says the Manichee to the bread: and sends up curses against the Most High; and curses him that made it, and so eats what was made⁷. If thou hatest the food, why didst thou look with smiling countenance on him that brought it to thee? If thou art thankful to the bringer, why dost thou utter thy blasphemy to God, who created and made it? So again he says, "I sowed thee not: may he be sown who sowed thee! I reaped thee not with a sickle: may he be reaped who reaped thee! I baked thee not with fire: may he be baked who baked thee!" A fine return for the kindness!

33. These are great faults, but still small in comparison with the rest. Their Baptism I dare not describe before men and women⁸. I dare not say what they distribute to their wretched communicants⁹ Truly we pollute

¹[Matt. xiii. 13.](#)

²[Mark iv. 34.](#)

³See the note at the end of Procatechesis.

⁴Disput. § 55. Compare the account of Manes in Socrates, Eccles. Hist. I. 22, in this series.

⁵The Gospel of Thomas, an account of the Childhood of Jesus, is extant in three forms, two in Greek and one in Latin: these are all translated in Clark's Ante-Nicene Library. The work is wrongly attributed by Cyril to a disciple of Manes, being mentioned long before Hippolytus (*Refutation of all Heresies*, V. 2) and by Origen (*Hom. I. in Lucam*): "There is extant also the Gospel according to Thomas."

⁶In the Disputation, § 9, Turbo describes these transformations: "Reapers must be transformed into hay, or beans, or barley, or corn, or vegetables, that they may be reaped and cut. Again if any one eats bread, he must become bread, and be eaten. If one kills a chicken, he will be a chicken himself. If one kills a mouse, he also will be a mouse."

⁷See Turbo's confession, Disput. § 9: "And when they are going to eat bread, they first pray, speaking thus to the bread: 'I neither reaped thee, nor ground thee, nor kneaded thee, nor cast thee into the oven: but another did these things and brought thee to me, and I am not to blame for eating thee.' And when he has said this to himself, he says to the Catechumen, 'I have prayed for thee,' and so he goes away."

⁸On the rites of Baptism and Eucharist employed by the Manichees, see Dict. Chr. Biogr., *Manicheans*.

⁹The original runs: Οὐ τολμῶ εἰπεῖν, τίνι ἐμβάπτοντες τὴν ἰσχάδα, διδῶσι τοῖς ἀθλίοις. διὰ συσσήμων δὲ

μόνον δηλούσθω. ἄνδρες γὰρ τὰ ἐν τοῖς ἐνυπνιασμοῖς ἐνθυμείσθωσιν, καὶ γυναῖκες τὰ ἐν ἀφένδοις.
Μιαινομεν ἀληθας τὸ στόμα κ.τ.λ.

43

our mouth in speaking of these things. Are the heathen more detestable than these? Are the Samaritans more wretched? Are Jews more impious? Are fornicators more impure¹? But the Manichee sets these offerings in the midst of the altar as he considers it². And dost thou, O man, receive instruction from such a mouth? On meeting this man dost thou greet him at all with a kiss? To say nothing of his other impiety, dost thou not flee from the defilement, and from men worse than profligates, more detestable than any prostitute?

34. Of these things the Church admonishes and teaches thee, and touches mire, that thou mayest not be bemired: she tells of the wounds, that thou mayest not be wounded. But for thee it is enough merely to know them: abstain from learning by experience. God thunders, and we all tremble; and they blaspheme. God lightens, and we all bow down to the earth; and they have their blasphemous sayings about the heavens³. These things are written in the books of the Manichees. These things we ourselves have read, because we could not believe those who told of them: yes, for the sake of your salvation we have closely inquired into their perdition.

35. But may the Lord deliver us from such delusion: and may there be given to you a hatred against the serpent, that as they lie in wait for the heel, so you may trample on their head. Remember ye what I say. What agreement can there be between our state and theirs? *What communion hath light with darkness*⁴? What hath the majesty of the Church to do with the abomination of the Manichees? Here is order, here is discipline⁵, here is majesty, here is purity: here even *to look upon a woman to lust after her*⁶ is condemnation. Here is marriage with sanctity⁷, here steadfast continence, here virginity in honour like unto the Angels: here partaking of food with thanksgiving, here gratitude to the Creator of the world. Here the Father of Christ is worshipped: here are taught fear and trembling before Him who sends the rain: here we ascribe glory to Him who makes the thunder and the lightning.

36. Make thou thy fold with the sheep: flee from the wolves: depart not from the Church. Hate those also who have ever been suspected in such matters: and unless in time thou perceive their repentance, do not rashly trust thyself among them. The truth of the Unity of God has been delivered to thee: learn to distinguish the pastures of doctrine. Be an approved banker⁸, *holding fast that which is good, abstaining from every form of evil*⁹. Or if thou hast ever been such as they, recognise and hate thy delusion. For there is a way of salvation, if thou reject the vomit, if thou from thy heart detest it, if thou depart from them, not with thy lips only, but with thy soul also: if thou worship the Father of Christ, the God of the Law and the Prophets, if thou acknowledge the Good and the Just to be one and the same God.¹⁰ And may He preserve you all, guarding you from falling or stumbling, stablished in the Faith, in Christ Jesus our Lord, to Whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen.

¹Ὁ μὲν γὰρ πορνεύσας, πρὸς μίαν ὥραν δ' ἐπιθυμίαν τελεῖ τὴν πρᾶξιν· καταγινώσκων δὲ τῆς πράξεως ὡς μιανθεῖς οἶδε λουτροῦ ἐπιδεόμενος, καὶ γινώσκει τῆς πράξεως τὸ μυσαρόν. Ὁ δὲ Μανιχαῖος θυσιαστηρίου μέσον, οὗ νομίζει, τίθησι ταῦτα, καὶ μιαίνει καὶ τὸ στόμα καὶ τὴν γλῶτταν. παρὰ τοιούτου στόματος, ἄνθρωπε κ.τ.λ.

²οὗ νομίζει. The Manichees boasted of their superiority to the Pagans in not worshipping God with altars, temples, images, victims, or incense (August. *contra Faustum* XX. cap. 15). Yet they used the names, as Augustine affirms (*l. c.* cap. 18): "Nevertheless I wish you would tell me why you call all those things which you approve in your own case by these names, temple, altar, sacrifice."

³Κάκεῖνοι περὶ οὐρανῶν τὰς δυσφήμους ἔχουσι γλώσσας. Ἰησοῦς λέγει περὶ τοῦ πατρὸς αὐτοῦ, "Ὅστις τὸν ἥλιον αὐτοῦ ἀνατέλλει ἐπὶ δικαίους καὶ ἀδίκους, καὶ βρέχει ἐπὶ πονηροὺς καὶ ἀγαθοὺς. κάκεῖνοι λέγουσιν, ὅτι οἱ ὑετοὶ ἐξ ἐρωτικῆς μανίας γίνονται, καὶ τολμῶσι λέγειν, ὅτι ἐστὶ τις παρθένος ἐν οὐρανῷ εὐειδῆς μετὰ νεανίσκου εὐειδοῦς, καὶ κατὰ τὴν τῶν καμηλῶν ἢ λύκων καιρὸν, τοὺς τῆς αἰσχροῦς ἐπιθυμίας καιροὺς ἔχειν, καὶ κατὰ τὴν τοῦ χειμῶνος καιρὸν, μανιωδῶς αὐτὸν ἐπιτρέχειν τῇ παρθένῳ, καὶ τὴν μὲν φεύγειν φασί, τὸν δὲ ἐπιτρέχειν, εἴτα ἐπιτρέχοντα ἰδρῶν, ἀπὸ δὲ τῶν ἰδρώτων αὐτοῦ εἶναι τὸν ὑετόν. Ταῦτα γέγραπται ἐν τοῖς

τῶν Μανιχαίων βιβλίοις· ταῦτα ἡμεῖς ἀνέγνωμεν, κ.τ.λ.

⁴[2 Cor. vi. 14.](#)

⁵Gr. ἐπιστήμη. See note on Introductory Lect. § 4.

⁶[Matt. v. 28.](#)

⁷σεμνότητος is the reading of the chief MSS. But the printed editions have σεμνότητος, comparing it with such phrases as στόμα ἀθεότητος (vi. 15), and μετάνοια τῆς σωτηρίας (xiv. 17).

⁸This saying is quoted three times in the Clementine Homilies as spoken by our Lord. See Hom. II. § 51; III. § 50; XVIII. § 20: "Every man who wishes to be saved must become, as the Teacher said, a judge of the books written to try us. For thus He spake: *Become experienced bankers*. Now the need of bankers arises from the circumstance that the spurious is mixed up with the genuine."

On the same saying, quoted as Scripture in the Apostolic Constitutions (II. § 36), Cotelerius suggests that in oral tradition, or in some Apocryphal book, the proverb was said to come from the Old Testament, and was added by some transcriber as a gloss in the margin of [Matt. 25.27](#); [Luke 19.23](#). Dionysius of Alexandria, Epist. VII., speaks of "the Apostolic word, which thus urges all who are endowed with greater virtue, 'Be ye skillful money-changers,'" referring apparently as here to [1 Thess. v. 21, 22](#), "try all things, &c." (See Euseb. *E.H.* VII. ch. 6 in this series: Suicer. *Thesaurus*, Τραπεζίτης: and Resch. (*Agrapha*, pp. 233–239.)

⁹[1 Thess. v. 21, 22.](#)

¹⁰Compare § 13 of this Lecture, where Cyril seems to refer especially to the heresy of Manes, as described in the *Disputatio Archelai*, cap. 6: "If you are desirous of being instructed in the faith of Manes, hear it briefly from me. That man worships two gods, unbegotten, self-originate, eternal, opposed one to the other. The one he represents as good, and the other as evil, naming the one Light, and the other Darkness."

44

Lecture VII.

The Father.

[EPHESIANS III. 14, 15](#)

For this cause I bow my knees unto the Father, ... of whom all fatherhood in heaven and earth is named, &c.

1. OF God as the sole Principle we have said enough to you yesterday¹: by "enough" I mean, not what is worthy of the subject, (for to reach that is utterly impossible to mortal nature), but as much as was granted to our infirmity. I traversed also the bye-paths of the manifold error of the godless heretics: but now let us shake off their foul and soul-poisoning doctrine, and remembering what relates to them, not to our own hurt, but to our greater detestation of them, let us come back to ourselves, and receive the saving doctrines of the true Faith, connecting the dignity of Fatherhood with that of the Unity, and believing IN ONE GOD THE FATHER: for we must not only believe in one God; but this also let us devoutly receive, that He is the Father of the Only-begotten, our Lord Jesus Christ.

2. For thus shall we raise our thoughts higher than the Jews², who admit indeed by their doctrines that there is One God, (for what if they often denied even this by their idolatries?); but that He is also the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, they admit not; being of a contrary mind to their own Prophets, who in the Divine Scriptures affirm, *The Lord said unto me, Thou art My Son, this day have I begotten thee*³. And to this day they rage and gather

themselves together against the Lord, and against His Anointed⁴, thinking that it is possible to be made friends of the Father apart from devotion towards the Son, being ignorant that *no man cometh unto the Father but by*⁵ the Son, who saith, *I am the Door, and I am the Way*⁶. He therefore that refuseth the Way which leadeth to the Father, and he that denieth the Door, how shall he be deemed worthy of entrance unto God? They contradict also what is written in the eighty-eighth Psalm, *He shall call Me, Thou art my Father, my God, and the helper of my salvation. And I will make him my first-born, high among the kings of the earth*⁷. For if they should insist that these things are said of David or Solomon or any of their successors, let them shew how *the throne* of him, who is in their judgment described in the prophecy, is *as the days of heaven, and as the sun before God, and as the moon established for ever*⁸. And how is it also that they are not abashed at that which is written, *From the womb before the morning-star have I begotten thee*⁹: also this, *He shall endure with the sun, and before the moon, from generation to generation*¹⁰. To refer these passages to a man is a proof of utter and extreme insensibility.

3. Let the Jews, however, since they so will, suffer their usual disorder of unbelief, both in these and the like statements. But let us adopt the godly doctrine of our Faith, worshipping one God the Father of the Christ, (for to deprive Him, who grants to all the gift of generation, of the like dignity would be impious): and let us BELIEVE IN ONE GOD THE FATHER, in order that, before we touch upon our teaching concerning Christ, the faith concerning the Only-begotten may be implanted in the soul of the hearers, without being at all interrupted by the intervening doctrines concerning the Father.

4. For the name of the Father, with the very utterance of the title, suggests the thought of the Son: as in like manner one who names the Son thinks straightway of the Father also¹¹. For if a Father, He is certainly

¹See Lecture VI. 1, and 5.

²"In Athanasius, *Quæstio i. ad Antiochum*, tom. II. p. 331, Monarchia is opposed to Polytheism: 'If we worship One God, it is manifest that we agree with the Jews in believing in a Monarchia: but if we worship three gods, it is evident that we follow the Greeks by introducing Polytheism, instead of piously worshipping One Only God.'" (Suicer, *Thesaurus*, Μοναρχία.)

³Ps. ii. 7.

⁴Psa. 2.2.

⁵John xiv. 6.

⁶John 10.9.

⁷Ps. lxxxix. 26, 27.

⁸vv Psa. 89.29,36,37.

⁹Ps. cx. 3: "From the womb of the morning thou hast the dew of thy youth" (R.V.).

¹⁰Ps. lxxii. 5.

¹¹Compare Athanasius (*de Sententiâ Dionyssii*, § 17): "Each of the names I have mentioned is inseparable and indivisible from that next to it. I spoke of the Father, and before bringing in the Son, I designated Him also in the Father. I brought in the Son, and even if I had not previously mentioned the Father, in any wise He would have been presupposed in the Son."

the Father of a Son; and if a Son, certainly the Son of a Father. Lest therefore from our speaking thus, IN ONE GOD, THE FATHER ALMIGHTY, MAKER OF HEAVEN AND EARTH, AND OF ALL THINGS VISIBLE AND INVISIBLE, and from our

then adding this also, AND IN ONE LORD JESUS CHRIST, any one should irreverently suppose that the Only-begotten is second in rank to heaven and earth,—for this reason before naming them we named GOD THE FATHER, that in thinking of the Father we might at the same time think also of the Son: for between the Son and the Father no being whatever comes.

5. God then is in an improper sense¹ the Father of many, but by nature and in truth of One only, the Only-begotten Son, our Lord Jesus Christ; not having attained in course of time to being a Father, but being ever the Father of the Only-begotten². Not that being without a Son before, He has since by change of purpose become a Father: but before every substance and every intelligence, before times and all ages, God hath the dignity of Father, magnifying Himself in this more than in His other dignities; and having become a Father, not by passion³, or union, not in ignorance, not by effluence⁴, not by diminution, not by alteration, *for every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom can be no variation, neither shadow of turning*⁵. Perfect Father, He begat a perfect Son, and delivered all things to Him who is begotten: (for *all things*, He saith, *are delivered unto Me of My Father*⁶;) and is honoured by the Only-begotten: for, *I honour My Father*⁷, saith the Son; and again, *Even as I have kept My Father's commandments, and abide in His love*⁸. Therefore we also say like the Apostle, *Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies, and God of all consolation*⁹: and, *We bow our knees unto the Father from whom all fatherhood in heaven and on earth is named*¹⁰: glorifying Him with the Only-begotten: for *he that denieth the Father, denieth the Son also*¹¹: and again, *He that confesseth the Son, hath the Father also*¹²; knowing that Jesus Christ is Lord to the glory of God the Father¹³.

6. We worship, therefore, as the Father of Christ, the Maker of heaven and earth, *the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob*¹⁴; to whose honour the former temple also, over against us here, was built. For we shall not tolerate the heretics who sever the Old Testament from the New¹⁵, but shall believe Christ, who says concerning the temple, *Wist ye not that I must be in My Father's house*¹⁶? and again, *Take these things hence, and make not my Father's house a house of merchandise*¹⁷, whereby He most clearly confessed that the former temple in Jerusalem was His own Father's house. But if any one from unbelief wishes to receive yet more proofs as to the Father of Christ being the same as the Maker of the world, let him hear Him say again, *Are not two sparrows sold for a farthing, and not one of them shall fall on the ground without My Father which is in heaven*¹⁸; this also, *Behold the fowls of the heaven that they sow not, neither do they reap, nor gather into barns; and your heavenly Father feedeth them*¹⁹; and this, *My Father worketh hitherto, and I work*²⁰.

7. But lest any one from simplicity or perverse ingenuity should suppose that Christ is but equal in honour to righteous men, from His saying, *I ascend to My Father, and your*²¹ *Father*, it is well to make this distinction beforehand, that the name of the Father is one, but the power of His operation²² manifold. And Christ Himself knowing this has spoken unerringly, *I go to My Father, and your Father*: not saying 'to our Father,' but distinguishing, and saying first what was proper to Himself, *to My Father*, which was by nature; then adding, *and your Father*, which was by adoption. For however high the privilege we have received of saying in our prayers, *Our Father*,

¹καταχρηστικῶς. A technical term in Grammar, applied to the use of a word in a derived or metaphorical sense. See Aristotle's description of the various kinds of metaphor, *Poet.* § xxi. 7–16. The opposite to καταχρηστικῶς is κυρίως, as used in a parallel passage by Athanasius, *Oratio i. contra Arianos*, § 21 fin. "It belongs to the Godhead alone, that the Father is properly (κυρίως) Father, and the Son properly Son."

²"And in Them, and Them only, does it hold, that the Father is ever Father, and the Son ever Son." (Athan., as above.)

³Compare vi. 6: ὁ γεννηθεὶς ἀπαθῶς. The importance attached to the assertion of a "passionless generation" arose from the objections offered by Eusebius of Nicomedia and others to the word ὁμοούσιος when proposed by Constantine at Nicæa. We learn from Eusebius of Cæsarea (*Epist ad suæ paræciæ homines*, § 4) that the Emperor himself explained that the word was used "not in the sense of the affections (πάθη) of bodies," because "the immaterial, and intellectual, and incorporeal nature could not be the subject of any corporeal affection." Again, in § 7, Eusebius admits that "there are grounds for saying that the Son is 'one in essence' with the Father, not in the way of bodies, nor like mortal beings, for He is not such by division of essence, or by severance, no, nor by any

affection, or alteration, or changing of the Father's essence and power." (See the next note.)

⁴Athanasius (*Expos. Fidei*, § 1): "Word not pronounced nor mental, nor an effluence of the Perfect, nor a dividing of the passionless nature." Also (*de Decretis*, § 11): "God being without parts is Father of the Son without partition or passion; for there is neither effluence of the Immaterial, nor influx from without, as among men."

⁵[James i. 17.](#)

⁶[Matt. xi. 27.](#)

⁷[John viii. 49.](#)

⁸[John xv. 10.](#)

⁹[2 Cor. i. 3.](#)

¹⁰[Eph. iii. 14, 15.](#)

¹¹[1 John ii. 22.](#) "This is the Antichrist, even he that denieth the Father and the Son" (R.V.).

¹²[v1 John 2.23](#), bracketed in the A.V. as spurious, but rightly restored in R.V.

¹³[Phil. ii. 11.](#)

¹⁴[Ex. iii. 6.](#)

¹⁵Compare Lect. iv. 33.

¹⁶[Luke ii. 49.](#)

¹⁷[John ii. 16.](#)

¹⁸[Matt. x. 29.](#) S. Cyril instead of "your Father" writes "my Father which is in heaven:" so Origen and Athanasius.

¹⁹[Matt. vi. 26.](#)

²⁰[John v. 17.](#)

²¹[John xx. 17.](#) On this text, quoted again in Cat. xi. 19, see the three Sermons of Bishop Andrewes *On the Resurrection*.

²²[ἐνεργεία](#), meaning here, the operation of God, by nature in begetting His Son, by adoption in making many sons.

46

which art in heaven, yet the gift is of loving-kindness. For we call Him Father, not as having been by nature begotten of Our Father which is in heaven; but having been transferred from servitude to sonship by the grace of the Father, through the Son and Holy Spirit, we are permitted so to speak by ineffable loving-kindness.

8. But if any one wishes to learn how we call God "Father," let him hear Moses, the excellent schoolmaster, saying, *Did not this thy Father Himself buy thee, and make thee, and create thee*¹? Also Esaias the Prophet, *And now, O Lord. Thou art our Father: and we all are clay, the works of Thine hands*². For most clearly has the prophetic gift declared that not according to nature, but according to God's grace, and by adoption, we call Him

Father.

9. And that thou mayest learn more exactly that in the Divine Scriptures it is not by any means the natural father only that is called father, hear what Paul says:—*For though ye should have ten thousand tutors in Christ, yet have ye not many fathers: for in Christ Jesus I begat you through the Gospel*¹. For Paul was father of the Corinthians, not by having begotten them after the flesh, but by having taught and begotten them again after the Spirit. Hear Job also saying, *I was a father of the needy*²: for he called himself a father, not as having begotten them all, but as caring for them. And God's Only-begotten Son Himself, when nailed in His flesh to the tree at the time of crucifixion, on seeing Mary, His own Mother according to the flesh, and John, the most beloved of His disciples, said to him, *Behold! thy mother*, and to her, *Behold! thy Son*³: teaching her the parental affection due to him⁴, and indirectly explaining that which is said in Luke, and *His father and His mother marvelled at Him*⁵: words which the tribe of heretics snatch up, saying that He was begotten of a man and a woman. For like as Mary was called the mother of John, because of her parental affection, not from having given him birth, so Joseph also was called the father of Christ, not from having begotten Him (for *he knew her not*, as the Gospel says, *until she had brought forth her first-born Son*⁶), but because of the care bestowed on His nurture.

10. Thus much then at present, in the way of a digression, to put you in remembrance. Let me, however, add yet another testimony in proof that God is called the Father of men in an improper sense. For when in Esaias God is addressed thus, *For Thou art our Father, though Abraham be ignorant of us*⁷, and *Sarah travailed not with us*⁸, need we inquire further on this point? And if the Psalmist says, *Let them be troubled from His countenance, the Father of the fatherless, and Judge of the widows*⁹, is it not manifest to all, that when God is called the Father of orphans who have lately lost their own fathers, He is so named not as begetting them of Himself, but as caring for them and shielding them. But whereas God, as we have said, is in an improper sense the Father of men, of Christ alone He is the Father by nature, not by adoption: and the Father of men in time, but of Christ before all time, as He saith, *And now, O Father, glorify Thou Me with Thine own self, with the glory which I had with Thee before the world was*¹⁰.

11. We believe then IN ONE GOD THE FATHER the Unsearchable and Ineffable, *Whom no man hath seen*¹¹, but the *Only-begotten alone hath declared Him*¹². *For He which is of God, He hath seen God*¹³: whose face the Angels do alway behold in heaven¹⁴, behold, however, each according to the measure of his own rank. But the undimmed vision of the Father is reserved in its purity for the Son with the Holy Ghost.

12. Having reached this point of my discourse, and being reminded of the passages just before mentioned, in which God was addressed as the Father of men, I am greatly amazed at men's insensibility. For God with unspeakable loving-kindness deigned to be called the Father of men,—He in heaven, they on earth,—and He the Maker of Eternity, they made in time,—He *who holdeth the earth in the hollow of His hand*, they upon the earth as grasshoppers¹⁵. Yet man forsook his heavenly Father, and said to the stock, *Thou art my father, and to the stone, Thou hast begotten me*¹⁶. And for this reason, methinks, the Psalmist says to mankind, *Forget also thine own people, and thy father's house*¹⁷, whom thou hast chosen for a father, whom thou hast drawn upon thyself to thy destruction.

13. And not only stocks and stones, but even Satan himself, the destroyer of souls, have some ere now chosen for a father; to whom the Lord said as a rebuke, *Ye do the deeds of your father*¹⁸, that is of the devil, he being the father of men not by nature, but by fraud.

¹Deut. xxxii. 6.

²Is. lxiv. 8.

³1 Cor. iv. 15.

⁴Job xxix. 16.

⁵John xix. 26, 27.

⁶φιλοστοργία might be applied to the mutual affection of mother and son, but the context shews that it refers here to parental love only; see Polybius, V. § 74, 5; Xenoph. *Cyrop.* I. § 3, 2.

⁷[Luke ii. 33.](#)

⁸[Matt. i. 25.](#)

⁹[Is. lxiii. 16.](#)

¹⁰[Isa. 51.2.](#)

¹¹[Ps. lxviii. 5.](#) Cyril quotes as usual from the Septuagint ([Ps. lxvii. 6](#)), where the clause *ταραχθήσονται ἀπὸ προσώπου αὐτοῦ*, answering to nothing in the Hebrew, is evidently an interpolation, and may have crept in from a marginal quotation of [Is. lxiv. 2](#).

¹²[John xvii. 5.](#)

¹³¹[1 Tim. ii. 16.](#)

¹⁴[John i. 18.](#)

¹⁵[John vi. 46](#): *He hath seen the Father*. The weight of authority is against the reading (τὸν θεόν) which Cyril follows.

¹⁶[Matt. xviii. 10.](#)

¹⁷[Isa. 40.12.22.](#)

¹⁸[Jer. ii. 27.](#)

¹⁹[Ps. xlv. 10.](#)

²⁰[John viii. 41.](#)

 47

For like as Paul by his godly teaching came to be called the father of the Corinthians, so the devil is called the father of those who of their own will *consent unto him*¹.

For we shall not tolerate those who give a wrong meaning to that saying, *Hereby know we the children of God, and the children of the devil*², as if there were by nature some men to be saved, and some to be lost. Whereas we come into such holy sonship not of necessity but by choice: nor was the traitor Judas by nature a son of the devil and of perdition; for certainly he would never have cast out devils at all in the name of Christ: *for Satan casteth not out Satan*³. Nor on the other hand would Paul have turned from persecuting to preaching. But the adoption is in our own power, as John saith, *But as many as received Him, to them gave He power to become the children of God, even to them that believe in His name*⁴. For not before their believing, but from their believing they were counted worthy to become of their own choice the children of God.

14. Knowing this, therefore, let us walk spiritually, that we may be counted worthy of God's adoption. *For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God*⁵. For it profiteth us nothing to have gained the title of Christians, unless the works also follow; lest to us also it be said, *If ye were Abraham's children, ye would do the works of Abraham*⁶. *For if we call on Him as Father, who without respect of persons judgeth according to every man's work, let us pass the time of our sojourning here in fear*⁷, loving not the world, neither the things that are in the world: for if any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him⁸. Wherefore, my beloved children, let

us by our works offer glory to *our Father which is in heaven, that they may see our good works, and glorify our Father which is in heaven*⁹. *Let us cast all our care upon Him, for our Father knoweth what things we have need of*¹⁰.

15. But while honouring our heavenly Father let us honour also *the fathers of our flesh*¹¹: since the Lord Himself hath evidently so appointed in the Law and the Prophets, saying, *Honour thy father and thy mother, that it may be well with thee, and thy days shall be long in the land*¹². And let this commandment be especially observed by those here present who have fathers and mothers. *Children, obey your parents in all things: for this is well pleasing to the Lord*¹³. For the Lord said not, *He that loveth father or mother is not worthy of Me*, lest thou from ignorance shouldest perversely mistake what was rightly written, but He added, *more than Me*¹⁴. For when our fathers on earth are of a contrary mind to our Father in heaven, then we must obey Christ's word. But when they put no obstacle to godliness in our way, if we are ever carried away by ingratitude, and, forgetting their benefits to us, hold them in contempt, then the oracle will have place which says, *He that curseth father or mother, let him die the death*¹⁵.

16. The first virtue of godliness in Christians is to honour their parents, to requite the troubles of those who begat them¹⁶, and with all their might to confer on them what tends to their comfort (for if we should repay them ever so much, yet we shall never be able to return their gift of life¹⁷), that they also may enjoy the comfort provided by us, and may confirm us in those blessings which Jacob the supplanter shrewdly seized; and that our Father in heaven may accept¹⁸ our good purpose, and judge us worthy *to shine amid righteous as the sun in the kingdom of our Father*¹⁹: To whom be the glory, with the Only-begotten our Saviour Jesus Christ, and with the Holy and Life-giving Spirit, now and ever, to all eternity. Amen.

¹[Ps. i. 18.](#)

²[1 John iii. 10.](#)

³[Mark iii. 23.](#)

⁴[John i. 12.](#)

⁵[Rom. viii. 14.](#)

⁶[John viii. 39.](#)

⁷[1 Pet. i. 17.](#)

⁸[1 John ii. 15.](#)

⁹[Matt. v. 16.](#)

¹⁰[1 Pet. v. 7;](#) [Matt. vi. 8.](#)

¹¹[Heb. xii. 9.](#)

¹²[Deut. v. 16.](#)

¹³[Col. iii. 20.](#)

¹⁴[Matt. x. 37.](#)

¹⁵[Ex. xxi. 17;](#) [Lev. xx. 9;](#) [Matt. xv. 4.](#)

¹⁶Compare for the thought Euripides, *Medea*, 1029–1035.

¹⁷ἀντιγεννήσαι. Jeremy Taylor (*Ductor Dubitantium*, Book III. cap. ii. §17) mentions several stories in which a parent is nourished from a daughter's breast, who thus 'saves the life she cannot give.'

¹⁸On the change of Moods, see Jelf, *Greek Grammar*, § 809. The second verb (καταξίωσειεν) expresses a wish and a consequence which might follow, if the first (στηρίξωσιν) wish be realized, as it probably may be. Cf. Herod. ix. 51.

¹⁹Matt. xiii. 43.

Lecture VIII.

Almighty.

[JEREMIAH XXXIX. 18, 19](#) (SEPTUAGINT).

*The Great, the strong God, Lord of great Counsel, and mighty in His works, the Great God, the Lord Almighty and of great name*¹.

1. By believing IN ONE GOD we cut off all misbelief in many gods, using this as a shield against Greeks; and every opposing power of heretics; and by adding, IN ONE GOD THE FATHER, we contend against those of the circumcision, who deny the Only-begotten Son of God. For, as was said yesterday, even before explaining the truths concerning our Lord Jesus Christ, we made it manifest at once, by saying "The Father," that He is the Father of a Son: that as we understand that God is, so we may understand that He has a Son. But to those titles we add that He is also "ALMIGHTY;" and this we affirm because of Greeks and Jews² together, and all heretics.

2. For of the Greeks some have said that God is the soul of the world³: and others that His power reaches only to heaven, and not to earth as well. Some also sharing their error and misusing the text which says, "*And Thy truth unto the clouds*⁴," have dared to circumscribe God's providence by the clouds and the heaven, and to alienate from God the things on earth; having forgotten the Psalm which says, *If I go up into heaven, Thou art there, if I go down into hell, Thou art present*⁵. For if there is nothing higher than heaven, and if hell is deeper than the earth, He who rules the lower regions reaches the earth also.

3. But heretics again, as I have said before, know not One Almighty God. For He is Almighty who rules all things, who has power over all things. But they who say that one God is Lord of the soul, and some other of the body, make neither of them perfect, because either is wanting to the other⁶. For how is he almighty, who has power over the soul, but not over the body? And how is he almighty who has dominion over bodies, but no power over spirits? But these men the Lord confutes, saying on the contrary, *Rather fear ye Him which is able to destroy both soul and body in hell*⁷. For unless the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ has the power over both, how does He subject both to punishment? For how shall He be able to take the body which is another's and cast it into hell, *except He first bind the strong man, and spoil his goods*⁸?

4. But the Divine Scripture and the doctrines of the truth know but One God, who rules all things by His power, but endures many things of His will. For He rules even over the idolaters, but endures them of His forbearance: He rules also over the heretics who set Him at nought, but bears with them because of His long-suffering: He rules even over the devil, but bears with him of His long-suffering, not from want of power; as if defeated. For *he is the beginning of the Lord's creation, made to be mocked*⁹, not by Himself,

¹The text is translated from the Septuagint, in which S. Cyril found the title ALMIGHTY (Παντοκράτωρ), one of the usual equivalents in the Septuagint for *Lord of Hosts* (*Sabaoth*). In the English A.V. and R.V. the passage stands thus: [Jer. xxxii. 18, 19](#): *The Great, the Mighty God, the LORD of Hosts, is His name, Great in counsel, and mighty in work.*

²“For even the Jewish nation had wicked heresies: for of them were...the Pharisees, who ascribe the practice of sinners to fortune and fate; and the Basmotheans, who deny providence and say that the world is made by spontaneous motion” (*Apost. Const.* VI. 6). Compare Euseb. (*E.H.* IV. 22.)

³Cicero, *De Natura Deorum*, Lib. I. 27: “Pythagoras thought that God was the soul pervading all nature.” The doctrine was accepted both by Stoics and Platonists, and became very general. Cf. Virg. *Georg.* iv. 221:

Deum namque ire per omnis

Terrasque, tractusque maris, cælumque profundum.

and *Æn.* vi. 726:

Spiritus intus alit, totamque infusa per artus

Meus agitat molem, et magno se corpore miscet.

⁴[Ps. xxxvi. 5](#). Cyril appears to have borrowed this statement from Clement of Alexandria, who states (*Stromat.* V. xiv. § 91) that from this Psalm the thought occurred to Aristotle to let Providence come down as far as to the Moon.

⁵[Ps. cxxxix. 8](#).

⁶See note on Lect. IV. 4.

⁷[Matt. x. 28](#).

⁸[Matt. 12.29](#).

⁹[Job xl. 14](#), τοῦτ' ἔστιν ἀρχὴ πλάσματος Κυρίου, πεποιημένον ἐγκαταπαίζεσθαι ὑπὸ τῶν ἀγγέλων αὐτοῦ. In this description of Behemoth the Septuagint differs much from the Hebrew, which is thus rendered in our English Versions, xl. 19: *He is the chief of the ways of God: he (only, R.V.) that made him can make his sword to approach unto him.* Compare [Job xli. 5](#): *Wilt thou play with him as with a bird?* and [Ps. civ. 26](#): *There is that Leviathan whom thou hast formed to play therein* (Sept. *to take thy pastime with him*). See [Baruch iii. 17](#), with the note in the Speaker's Commentary.

for that were unworthy of Him, but *by the Angels* whom He hath made. But He suffered him to live, for two purposes, that he might disgrace himself the more in his defeat, and that mankind might be crowned with victory. O all wise providence of God! which takes the wicked purpose for a groundwork of salvation for the faithful. For as He took the unbrotherly purpose of Joseph's brethren for a groundwork of His own dispensation, and, by permitting them to sell their brother from hatred, took occasion to make him king whom He would; so he permitted the devil to wrestle, that the victors might be crowned; and that when victory was gained, he might be the more disgraced as being conquered by the weaker, and men be greatly honoured as having conquered him who was once an Archangel.

5. Nothing then is withdrawn from the power of God; for the Scripture says of Him, *for all things are Thy servants*¹. All things alike are His servants, but from all these One, His only Son, and One, His Holy Spirit, are excepted; and all the things which are His servants serve the Lord through the One Son and in the Holy Spirit. God then rules all, and of His long-suffering endures even murderers and robbers and fornicators, having appointed a set time for recompensing every one, that if they who have had long warning are still impenitent in

heart, they may receive the greater condemnation. They are kings of men, who reign upon earth, but not without the power from above: and this Nebuchadnezzar once learned by experience, when he said; *For His kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and His power from generation to generation*².

6. Riches, and gold, and silver are not, as some think, the devil's³: for *the whole world of riches is for the faithful man, but for the faithless not even a penny*⁴. Now nothing is more faithless than the devil; and God says plainly by the Prophet, *The gold is Mine, and the silver is Mine, and to whomsoever I will I give it*⁵. Do thou but use it well, and there is no fault to be found with money: but whenever thou hast made a bad use of that which is good, then being unwilling to blame thine own management, thou impiously throwest back the blame upon the Creator. A man may even be justified by money: *I was hungry, and ye gave Me meat*⁶: that certainly was from money. *I was naked, and ye clothed Me*: that certainly was by money. And wouldest thou learn that money may become a door of the kingdom of heaven? *Sell, saith He, that thou hast, and give to the poor, and thou shalt have treasure in heaven*⁷.

7. Now I have made these remarks because of those heretics who count possessions, and money, and men's bodies accursed⁸. For I neither wish thee to be a slave of money, nor to treat as enemies the things which God has given thee for use. Never say then that riches are the devil's: for though he say, *All these will I give thee, for they are delivered unto me*⁹, one may indeed even reject his assertion; for we need not believe the liar: and yet perhaps he spake the truth, being compelled by the power of His presence: for he said not, *All these will I give thee*, for they are mine, but, *for they are delivered unto me*. He grasped not the dominion of them, but confessed that he had been entrusted¹⁰ with them, and was for a time dispensing them. But at a proper time interpreters should inquire whether his statement is false or true¹¹.

8. God then is One, the Father, the Almighty, whom the brood of heretics have dared to blaspheme. Yea, they have dared to blaspheme the Lord of Sabaoth¹², *who sitteth above the Cherubim*¹³: they have dared to blaspheme the Lord Adonai¹⁴: they have dared to blaspheme Him who is in the Prophets the Almighty

¹Ps. cxix. 91.

²Dan. iv. 34.

³On this doctrine of the Manicheans see Archelaus (*Disputatio*, cap. 42), Epiphanius (*Hæres.* lxvi. § 81). Compare Clement. Hom. xv. cap. 9: "To all of us possessions are sins." Plato (*Laws*, V. 743): "I can never agree with them that the rich man will be really happy, unless he is also good: but for one who is eminently good to be also extremely rich is impossible."

⁴Prov. xvii. 6, according to the Septuagint. See note on Cat. V. 2, where the same passage is quoted. Clement of Alexandria (*Stromat.* II. 5) refers to it in connexion with the passage of Plato quoted in the preceding note. S. Augustine also quotes and explains it in *Epist.* 153, § 26.

⁵The former clause is from [Haggai ii. 8](#); the latter, taken from the words of the Tempter in [Luke iv. 6](#), is quoted both by Cyril and by other Fathers as if from Haggai. Chrysostom (*Hom.* xxxiv. § 5, in [1 Cor. xiii.](#)) treats the use which some made of the misquotation as ridiculous.

⁶Matt. xxv. 35, 36.

⁷Matt. 19.21.

⁸The connexion of σώματα with money and possessions suggests the not uncommon meaning "slaves." See Polyb. xviii. 18 § 6: καὶ τὴν ἐνδουχίαν ἀπέδοντο καὶ τὰ σώματα, καὶ σὺν τούτοις ἔτι τινὰς τῶν κτήσεων, "household furniture, and slaves, and besides these some also of their lands." See *Dictionary of Christian Antiquities*, "Slavery," where it is shewn that Christians generally and even Bishops still possessed slaves throughout the 4th Century.

But here it is perhaps more probable that Cyril refers, as before, Cat. iv. § 23, to the Manichean doctrine of the

body as the root of sin.

⁹[Matt. iv. 9](#); [Luke iv. 6](#).

¹⁰For ἐγκεχειρωθῆσθαι, the reading of all the printed Editions, which hardly yields a suitable sense, we should probably substitute ἐγκεχειρίσθαι. A similar confusion of the two verbs occurs in Polybius (*Hist.* VIII. xviii. 6); the proper use of the latter is seen in Joh. Damasc. (*De Fide Orthod.* II. 4, quoted by Cleopas), who speaks of Satan as being “of these Angelic powers the chief of the earthly order, and entrusted by God with the guardianship of the earth” (τῆς γῆς τὴν φυλακὴν ἐγχειρισθεὶς παρὰ Θεοῦ).

¹¹On this point compare Irenæus (*Hær.* V. xxi.–xxiv.), and Gregory of Nyssa (*Orat. Catech.* § 5).

¹²The reference is to Manes, of whom his disciple Turbo says (*Archelai Disput.* § 10), “the name Sabaoth, which is honourable and mighty with you, he declares to be the nature of man, and the parent of lust: for which reason the simple, he says, worship lust, and think it to be a god.”

¹³[Ps. lxxx. 1](#).

¹⁴Ἀδωναϊ, Heb. אֲדֹנָי, “the Lord,” an old form of the Plural of majesty, used of God only.

50

God¹. But worship thou One God the Almighty, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Flee from the error of many gods, flee also from every heresy, and say like Job, *But I will call upon the Almighty Lord, which doeth great things and unsearchable, glorious things and marvellous without number*², and, *For all these things there is honour from the Almighty*³: to Whom be the glory for ever and ever. Amen.

¹παντοκράτορα, Heb. אֵל שֶׁדַּי, El-Shaddai, “God Almighty.”

²[Job v. 8, 9](#). Cyril’s quotation agrees with the Codex Alexandrinus of the Septuagint, which has παντοκράτορα, “Almighty,” while the Vatican and other MSS. read τὸν πάντων δεσπότην.

³[Job xxxvii. 23](#): *God hath upon Him terrible majesty* (R.V.). The Vatican and Alexandrine MSS. of the Septuagint read ἐπὶ τούτοις μεγάλη ἡ δόξα καὶ τιμὴ παντοκράτορος. (*For these things great is the glory and honour of the Almighty*.) But Cyril’s text is the same as the Aldine and Complutensian.

51

Lecture IX.

On the Words, Maker of Heaven and Earth, and of All Things Visible and Invisible.

[JOB XXXVIII. 2-3](#)

*Who is this that hideth counsel from Me, and keepeth words in his heart, and thinketh to hide them from Me*¹?

1. To look upon God with eyes of flesh is impossible: for the incorporeal cannot be subject to bodily sight: and the Only begotten Son of God Himself hath testified, saying, *No man hath seen God at any time*². For if

according to that which is written in Ezekiel any one should understand that Ezekiel saw Him, yet what saith the Scripture? *He saw the likeness of the glory of the Lord*³; not the Lord Himself, but *the likeness of His glory*, not the glory itself, as it really is. And when he saw merely *the likeness of the glory*, and not the glory itself, he fell to the earth from fear. Now if the sight of the likeness of the glory brought fear and distress upon the prophets, any one who should attempt to behold God Himself would to a certainty lose his life, according to the saying, *No man shall see My face and live*⁴. For this cause God of His great loving-kindness spread out the heaven as a veil of His proper Godhead, that we should not perish. The word is not mine, but the Prophet's. *If Thou shalt rend the heavens, trembling will take hold of the mountains at sight of Thee, and they will flow down*⁵. And why dost thou wonder that Ezekiel fell down on seeing *the likeness of the glory*? when Daniel at the sight of Gabriel, though but a servant of God, straightway shuddered and fell on his face, and, prophet as he was, dared not answer him, until the Angel transformed himself into the likeness of a son of man⁶. Now if the appearing of Gabriel wrought trembling in the Prophets, had God Himself been seen as He is, would not all have perished?

2. The Divine Nature then it is impossible to see with eyes of flesh: but from the works, which are Divine, it is possible to attain to some conception of His power, according to Solomon, who says, *For by the greatness and beauty of the creatures proportionably the Maker of them is seen*⁷. He said not that from the creatures the Maker is seen, but added *proportionably*. For God appears the greater to every man in proportion as he has grasped a larger survey of the creatures: and when his heart is uplifted by that larger survey, he gains withal a greater conception of God.

3. Wouldest thou learn that to comprehend the nature of God is impossible? The Three Children in the furnace of fire, as they hymn the praises of God, say *Blessed art thou that beholdest the depths, and sittest upon the Cherubim*⁸. Tell me what is the nature of the Cherubim, and then look upon Him who sitteth upon them. And yet Ezekiel the Prophet even made a description of them, as far as was possible, saying that *every one has four faces*, one of a man, another of a lion, another of an eagle, and another of a calf; and that each one had six wings⁹, and they had eyes on all sides; and that under each one was a wheel of four sides. Nevertheless though the Prophet makes the explanation, we cannot yet understand it even as we read. But if we cannot understand the throne, which he has described, how shall we be able to comprehend Him who sitteth thereon, the Invisible and Ineffable God? To scrutinise then the nature of God is impossible: but it is in our power to send up praises of His glory for His works that are seen.

4. These things I say to you because of the

¹The Septuagint, from which Cyril quotes the text, differs much from the Hebrew, and from the English Versions: *Who is this that darkeneth counsel by words without knowledge? Gird up now thy loins like a man: for I will demand of thee, and answer thou Me.*

²[John i. 18.](#)

³[Ezekiel i. 28.](#)

⁴[Exod. xxxiii. 20.](#)

⁵[Is. lxiv. 1](#), Septuagint. R.V. *Oh that Thou wouldest rend the heavens, that Thou wouldest come down, that the mountains might flow down.*

⁶[Dan. x. 9, 16, 18.](#)

⁷[Wisdom xiii. 5.](#) Compare Theophilus of Antioch *To Autolycus*, l. 5, 6: "God cannot indeed be seen by human eyes, but is beheld and perceived through His providence and works....He is not visible to eyes of flesh, since He is incomprehensible."

⁸Song of Three Children 32.

⁹In [Ezekiel i. 6-11](#), the four living creatures have each *four* wings, as also in [Ezek. 10.21](#) according to the Hebrew.

But in the latter passage, according to the Vatican text of the Septuagint, each has *eight* wings, as Codd. R. and Casaub. read here. Cyril seems to have confused the number in Ezekiel with that in [Is. vi. 2](#): *each one had six wings*. By “a wheel of four sides” Cyril explains [Ez. i. 16](#): *a wheel in the midst of a wheel*, as meaning two circles set at right angles to each other, like the equator and meridian on a globe.

52

following context of the Creed, and because we say, WE BELIEVE IN ONE GOD, THE FATHER ALMIGHTY, MAKER OF HEAVEN AND EARTH, AND OF ALL THINGS VISIBLE AND INVISIBLE; in order that we may remember that the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ is the same as He that made the heaven and the earth¹, and that we may make ourselves safe against the wrong paths of the godless heretics, who have dared to speak evil of the All wise Artificer of all this world², men who see with eyes of flesh, but have the eyes of their understanding blinded.

5. For what fault have they to find with the vast creation of God?—they, who ought to have been struck with amazement on beholding the vaultings of the heavens: they, who ought to have worshipped Him who reared the sky as a dome, who out of the fluid nature of the waters formed the stable substance of the heaven. For God said, *Let there be a firmament in the midst of the water*³. God spake once for all, and it stands fast, and falls not. The heaven is water, and the orbs therein, sun, moon, and stars are of fire: and how do the orbs of fire run their course in the water? But if any one disputes this because of the opposite natures of fire and water, let him remember the fire which in the time of Moses in Egypt flamed amid the hail, and observe the all-wise workmanship of God. For since there was need of water, because the earth was to be tilled, He made the heaven above of water that when the region of the earth should need watering by showers, the heaven might from its nature be ready for this purpose.

6. But what? Is there not cause to wonder when one looks at the constitution of the sun? For being to the sight as it were a small body he contains a mighty power; appearing from the East, and sending forth his light unto the West: whose rising at dawn the Psalmist described, saying: *And he cometh forth out of his chamber as a bridegroom*⁴. He was describing the brightness and moderation of his state on first becoming visible unto men: for when he rides at high noon, we often flee from his blaze: but at his rising he is welcome to all as a bridegroom to look on.

Observe also his arrangement (or rather not his, but the arrangement of Him who by an ordinance determined his course), how in summer he rises higher and makes the days longer, giving men good time for their works: but in winter contracts his course, that the period of cold may be increased, and that the nights becoming longer may contribute to men's rest, and contribute also to the fruitfulness of the products of the earth⁵. See also how the days alternately respond each to other in due order, in summer increasing, and in winter diminishing; but in spring and autumn granting equal intervals one to another. And the nights again complete the like courses; so that the Psalmist also says of them, *Day unto day uttereth speech, and night unto night proclaimeth knowledge*⁶. For to the heretics who have no ears, they all but cry aloud, and by their good order say, that there is none other God save the Creator who hath set them their bounds, and laid out the order of the Universe⁷.

7. But let no one tolerate any who say that one is the Creator of the light, and another of darkness⁸: for let him remember how Isaiah says, *I am the God who made the light, and created darkness*⁹. Why, O man, art thou vexed thereat? Why art thou offended at the time that is given thee for rest¹⁰? A servant would have had no rest from his masters, had not the darkness necessarily brought a respite. And often after wearying ourselves in the day, how are we refreshed in the night, and he who was yesterday worn with toils, rises vigorous in the morning because of the night's rest¹¹? And what more helpful to wisdom than the night¹²? For herein oftentimes we set before our minds the things of God; and herein we read and contemplate the Divine Oracles. And when is our mind most attuned to Psalmody and

¹Compare Cat. iv. 4. Irenæus (I. x. 1): “The Church, though dispersed throughout the whole world, even to the ends of the earth, yet received from the Apostles and their disciples the Faith in One God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven, and earth, and the sea and all that therein is.” Tertullian (*de Præscriptione Hæret.* cap. xiii.) “The rule of faith is that whereby we believe that there is One God only, and none other than the Creator of the world, who brought forth all things out of nothing through His own Word first of all sent forth.”

²Compare Cat. vi. 13, 27.

³[Gen. i. 6.](#)

⁴[Ps. xix. 5.](#)

⁵The common reading ἵνα μὴ τοῦ ψύχους πλείων γένηται ὁ χρόνος, ἀλλ' ἵνα αἱ νύκτες, κ.τ.λ. gives a meaning contrary to the facts. The translation follows the MSS. Roe, Casaubon, which omit μὴ and for ἀλλὰ read καί. Compare Whewell's *Astronomy*, p. 22: "The length of the year is so determined as to be adapted to the constitution of most vegetables: or the construction of vegetables is so adjusted as to be suited to the length which the year really has, and unsuited to a duration longer or shorter by any considerable portion. The vegetable clock-work is so set as to go for a year." *Ibid.* p. 34: "The terrestrial day, and consequently the length of the cycle of light and darkness, being what it is, we find various parts of the constitution both of animals and vegetables, which have a periodical character in their functions, corresponding to the diurnal succession of external conditions, and we find that the length of the period, as it exists in their constitution, coincides with the length of the natural day."

⁶[Ps. xix. 2.](#) Compare a beautiful passage of Theophilus of Antioch (*To Autolycus*, vi.).

⁷Lucretius, V. 1182:

"They saw the skies in constant order run,

The varied seasons and the circling sun,

Apparent rule, with unapparent cause,

And thus they sought in gods the source of laws.

⁸See note 3 on Cat. iii. 33.

⁹[Is. xlv. 7.](#) Compare the Homily of Chrysostom on this text.

¹⁰Whewell, *Astronomy*. p. 38: "Animals also have a period in their functions and habits; as in the habits of waking, sleeping, eating, &c., and their well-being appears to depend on the coincidence of this period with the length of the natural day."

¹¹Chrysostom, VI. p. 171: "As the day brings man out to his work, so the night succeeding releases him from his countless toils and thoughts, and lulling his weary eyes to sleep, and closing their lids, prepares him to welcome the sunbeam again with his force in full vigour."

¹²Clement of Alexandria (*Stromat.* IV. 22, E. Tr.): "And in this way they seem to have called the night Euphrone, since then the soul released from the perceptions of sense turns in on itself, and has a truer hold of intelligence (φρόνησις)."

53

Prayer? Is it not at night? And when have we often called our own sins to remembrance? Is not at night¹? Let us not then admit the evil thought, that another is the maker of darkness: for experience shews that this also is good and useful.

8. They ought to have felt astonishment and admiration not only at the arrangement of sun and moon, but also at the well-ordered choirs of the stars, their unimpeded courses, and their risings in the seasons due to each: and how some are signs of summer, and others of winter; and how some mark the season for sowing, and others shew the commencement of navigation². And a man sitting in his ship, and sailing amid the boundless waves, steers his ship by looking at the stars. For of these matters the Scripture says well, *And let them be for signs, and for seasons, and for years*³, not for fables of astrology and nativities. But observe how He has also graciously given us the light of day by gradual increase: for we do not see the sun at once arise; but just a little light runs on before,

in order that the pupil of the eye may be enabled by previous trial to look upon his stronger beam: see also how He has relieved the darkness of the night by rays of moonlight.

9. *Who is the father of the rain? And who hath begotten the drops of dew*⁴? Who condensed the air into clouds, and bade them carry the waters of the rain⁵, now *bringing golden-tinted clouds from the north*⁶, now changing these into one uniform appearance, and again transforming them into manifold circles and other shapes? *Who can number the clouds in wisdom*⁷? Whereof in Job it saith, And He knoweth the separations of the clouds⁸, *and hath bent down the heaven to the earth*⁹: and, *He who numbereth the clouds in wisdom: and, the cloud is not rent under Him*¹⁰. For so many measures of waters lie upon the clouds, yet they are not rent: but come down with all good order upon the earth. Who *bringeth the winds out of their treasures*¹¹? And who, as we said before, *is he that hath begotten the drops of dew? And out of whose womb cometh the ice*¹²? For its substance is like water, and its strength like stone. And at one time the water becomes *snow like wool*, at another it ministers to Him *who scattereth the mist like ashes*¹³, and at another it is changed into a stony substance; since *He governs the waters as He will*¹⁴. Its nature is uniform, and its action manifold in force. Water becomes in vines *wine that maketh glad the heart of man*: and in olives *oil that maketh man's face to shine*: and is transformed also into *bread that strengtheneth man's heart*¹⁵, and into fruits of all kinds which He hath created¹⁶.

10. What should have been the effect of these wonders? Should the Creator have been blasphemed? Or worshipped rather? And so far I have said noticing of the unseen works of His wisdom. Observe, I pray you, the spring, and the flowers of every kind in all their likeness still diverse one from another; the deepest crimson of the rose, and the purest whiteness of the lily: for these spring from the same rain and the same earth, and who makes them to differ? Who fashions them? Observe, pray, the exact care: from the one substance of the tree there is part for shelter, and part for divers fruits: and the Artificer is One. Of the same vine part is for burning¹⁷, and part for shoots, and part for leaves, and part for tendrils, and part for clusters.

Admire also the great thickness of the knots which run round the reed, as the Artificer hath

¹Chrysostom (Tom. II. p. 793): "We usually take the reckoning of our money early in the morning, but of our actions, of all that we have said and done by day, let us demand of ourselves the account after supper, and even after nightfall, as we lie upon our bed, with none to trouble, none to disturb us. And if we see anything done amiss, let us chastise our conscience, let us rebuke our mind, let us so vehemently impugn our account, that we may no more dare to rise up and bring ourselves to the same pit of sin, being mindful of the scourging at night."

²Clem. Alex. (*Stromat.* VI. 11): "The same is true also of Astronomy, for being engaged in the investigation of the heavenly bodies, as to the form of the universe, and the revolution of the heaven, and the motion of the stars, it brings the soul nearer to the Creative Power, and teaches it to be quick in perceiving the seasons of the year, the changes of the atmosphere, and the risings of the stars; since navigation also and husbandry are full of benefit from this science." Compare Lactantius (*De Irâ Dei*, cap. xiii.).

³[Gen. i. 14.](#)

⁴[Job xxxviii. 28.](#)

⁵Whewell, *Astronomy*, p. 88: "*Clouds* are produced by aqueous vapour when it returns to the state of water." p. 89: "Clouds produce *rain*. In the formation of a cloud the precipitation of moisture probably forms a fine watery *powder*, which remains suspended in the air in consequence of the minuteness of its particles: but if from any cause the precipitation is collected in larger portions, and becomes *drops*, these descend by their weight and produce a shower." Compare Aristotle, *Meteorologica*, I. ix. 3; Ansted, *Physical Geography*, p. 210.

⁶[Job xxxvii. 22:](#) "Out of the north cometh golden splendour" (R.V.).

⁷[Job xxxviii. 37.](#)

⁸[Job xxxvii. 16:](#) "Dost thou know the balancings of the clouds?" In the Septuagint διακρίσιν νεφῶν may mean "the separate path of the clouds" (Vulg. "*semitas nubium*,") or "the dissolving," as in Aristotle (*Meteorol.* I. vii. 10:

διακρίνεσθαι καὶ διαλύεσθαι τὸ διάτμιζον ὑγρὸν ὑπὸ τοῦ πλήθους τῆς θερμῆς ἀναθυμιάσεως, ὥστε μὴ συνίστασθαι ῥαδίως εἰς ὕδωρ. “The moist vapour is separated and dissolved by the great heat of the evaporation, so that it does not easily condense into water.” Cf. Plato, *Sophistes* 243 B: διακρίσεις καὶ συγκρίσεις.

⁹[Job xxxviii. 37](#) (according to the Septuagint): “And who is he that numbereth the clouds by wisdom, and bent down the heaven to the earth?” A.V., R.V. “Or who can pour out the bottles of heaven?”

¹⁰[Job xxvi. 8](#): “He bindeth up the waters in His thick clouds; and the cloud is not rent under them.”

¹¹[Ps. cxxxv. 7](#).

¹²[Job xxxviii. 28](#).

¹³[Ps. cxlvii. 16](#): “He scattereth the hoar frost like ashes.” The Hebrew עֶשֶׂן is rendered by πάχνη, “hoar frost,” in [Job xxxviii. 29](#), but here by ὁμιχλη, “mist.”

¹⁴[Job xxxvii. 10](#): “the breadth of the waters is straitened” (Marg. R.V. “congealed”). The word οἰακίζει in the Septuagint means to “steer,” Lat. “gubernare” to “turn as by a helm.”

¹⁵[Ps. civ. 15](#).

¹⁶There is a similar passage on the various effects of water in Cat. xvi. 12. Chrysostom (*de Statuis*, Hom. xii. 2), Epiphanius (*Ancoratus*, p. 69), and other Fathers, appear to reproduce both the thoughts and words of Cyril.

¹⁷For καῦσιν, “burning,” Morel and Milles, with Cod. Coisl., read καῦστιν, a rare word explained by Hesychius as the “growth” or “foliage” of the vine: but this is fully expressed in what follows, and the reading καῦσιν is confirmed by Virgil (*Georg.* ii. 408): “Primus devecta cremato sarmenta” (Reischl).

54

made them. From one and the same earth come forth creeping things, and wild beasts, and cattle, and trees, and food; and gold, and silver, and brass, and iron, and stone. The nature of the waters is but one, yet from it comes the substance of fishes and of birds; whereby¹ as the former swim in the waters, so the birds fly in the air.

11. *This great and wide sea, therein are things creeping innumerable²*. Who can describe the beauty of the fishes that are therein? Who can describe the greatness of the whales, and the nature³ of its amphibious animals, how they live both on dry land and in the waters? Who can tell the depth and the breadth of the sea, or the force of its enormous waves? Yet it stays at its bounds, because of Him who said, *Hitherto shalt thou come, and no further, but within thyself shall thy waves be broken⁴*. Which sea also clearly shews the word of the command imposed upon it, since after it has run up, it leaves upon the beach a visible line made by the waves, shewing, as it were, to those who see it, that it has not passed its appointed bounds.

12. Who can discern the nature of the birds of the air? How some carry with them a voice of melody, and others are variegated with all manner of painting on their wings, and others fly up into mid air and float motionless, as the hawk: for by the Divine command *the hawk spreadeth out his wings and floateth motionless, looking towards the south⁵*. What man can behold the eagle’s lofty flight? If then thou canst not discern the soaring of the most senseless of the birds, how wouldest thou understand the Maker of all?

13. Who among men knows even the names of all wild beasts? Or who can accurately discern the physiology of each? But if of the wild beasts we know not even the mere names, how shall we comprehend the Maker of them? God’s command was but one, which said, *Let the earth bring forth wild beasts, and cattle, and creeping things, after their kinds⁶* and from one earth⁷, by one command, have sprung diverse natures, the gentle sheep and the carnivorous lion, and various instincts⁸ of irrational animals, bearing resemblance to the various characters of men; the fox to manifest the craft that is in men, and the snake the venomous treachery of friends, and the neighing horse the wantonness of young men⁹, and the laborious ant, to arouse the sluggish and the dull: for when a man

passes his youth in idleness, then he is instructed by the irrational animals, being reproved by the divine Scripture saying, *Go to the ant, thou sluggard, see and emulate her ways, and become wiser than she*¹⁰. For when thou seest her treasuring up her food in good season, imitate her, and treasure up for thyself fruits of good works for the world to come. And again, *Go to the bee, and learn how industrious she is*¹¹: how, hovering round all kinds of flowers, she collects her honey for thy benefit: that thou also, by ranging over the Holy Scriptures, mayest lay hold of salvation for thyself, and being filled with them mayest say, *How sweet are thy words unto my throat, yea sweeter than honey and the honeycomb unto my mouth*¹².

14. Is not then the Artificer worthy the rather to be glorified? For what? If thou knowest not the nature of all things, do the things that have been made forthwith become useless? Canst thou know the efficacy of all herbs? Or canst thou learn all the benefit which proceeds from every animal? Ere now even from venomous adders have come antidotes for the preservation of men¹³. But thou wilt say to me, "The snake is terrible." Fear thou the Lord, and it shall not be able to hurt thee. "A scorpion stings." Fear the Lord, and it shall not sting thee. "A lion is bloodthirsty." Fear thou the Lord, and he shall lie down beside thee, as by Daniel. But truly wonderful also is the action of the animals: how some, as the scorpion, have the sharpness in a sting; and others have their power in their teeth; and others do battle with their claws; while the basilisk's power is his gaze¹⁴. So then from this varied workmanship understand the Creator's power.

¹For the construction of ἵνα with the Indicative ἵπτανται, see Bernhardt, *Syntax*, p. 401. Winer (*Gram. N. T.* III. sect. xli. c).

²[Ps. civ. 25.](#)

³Gr. ὑπόστασις, literally "substance."

⁴[Job xxxviii. 11.](#)

⁵[Job 39.26.](#)

⁶[Gen. i. 24.](#)

⁷Instead of φωνῆς (Milles), or πηγῆς (Bened. Roe, Casaub.) the recent Editors have restored τῆς γῆς with the Jerusalem and Munich MSS., and Basil.

⁸Gr. κινήσεις "movements," "impulses." Aristotle (*Historia Animalium*. IX. vii. 1) remarks that many imitations of man's mode of life may be observed in the habits of other animals.

⁹[Jer. v. 8.](#)

¹⁰[Prov. vi. 6.](#) Instead of the epithet "laborious" (γεωργότατος) some MSS. have "agile" or "restless" (γοργότατος).

¹¹After the description of the ant, [Prov. vi. 6-8](#), there follows in the Septuagint a similar reference to the bee: "Or go to the bee, and learn how industrious she is, and how comely she makes her work, and the produce of her labours kings and commons adopt for health, and she is desired and esteemed by all, and though feeble in strength has been exalted by her regard for wisdom." The interpolation is supposed to be of Greek origin, as containing "idiomatic Greek expressions which would not occur to a translator from the Hebrew" (Delitzsch).

¹²[Ps. cxix. 103.](#)

¹³Compare Bacon (*Natural Hist.* 965): "I would have trial made of two other kinds of bracelets, for comforting the heart and spirits: one of the trochisch of vipers, made into little pieces of beads; for since they do great good inwards (especially for pestilent agues), it is like they will be effectual outwards, where they may be applied in greater quantity. There would be trochisch likewise made of snakes; whose flesh dried is thought to have a very

good opening and cordial virtue.” *Ib.* 969: “The writers of natural magic commend the wearing of the spoil of a snake, for preserving of health.” Thomas Jackson (*On the Creed*, VIII. 8, § 4): “The poisonous bitings of the scorpion are usually cured by the oil of scorpions.”

¹⁴Shakespeare (*Richard III.* [Act. i.](#) Sc. ii.).

Glo. “Thine eyes, sweet lady, have infected mine.”

Anne. “Would they were basilisks to strike thee dead.”

Compare Bacon (*De Augmentis*, VII. cap. ii): “The fable goes of the basilisk, that if he see you first, you die for it, but if you see him first, he dies.” Bacon refers to Pliny (*Nat. Hist.* viii. 33).

55

15. But these things perhaps thou knowest not: thou wouldest have nothing in common with the creatures which are without thee. Enter now into thyself, and from thine own nature consider its Artificer. What is there to find fault with in the framing of thy body? Be master of thyself, and nothing evil shall proceed from any of thy members. Adam was at first without clothing in Paradise with Eve, but it was not because of his members that he deserved to be cast out. The members then are not the cause of sin, but they who use their members amiss; and the Maker thereof is wise. Who prepared the recesses of the womb for child-bearing? Who gave life to the lifeless thing within it? *Who knitted us with sinews and bones, and clothed us with skin and flesh*¹, and, as soon as the child was born, brought streams of milk out of the breasts? How grows the babe into a boy, and the boy into a youth, and then into a man; and, still the same, passes again into an old man, while no one notices the exact change from day to day? Of the food, how is one part changed into blood, and another separated for excretion, and another part changed into flesh? Who gives to the heart its unceasing motion? Who wisely guarded the tenderness of the eyes with the fence of the eyelids²? For as to the complicated and wonderful contrivance of the eyes, the voluminous books of the physicians hardly give us explanation. Who distributes the one breath to the whole body? Thou seest, O man, the Artificer, thou seest the wise Creator.

16. These points my discourse has now treated at large, having left out many, yea, ten thousand other things, and especially things incorporeal and invisible, that thou mayest abhor those who blaspheme the wise and good Artificer, and from what is spoken and read, and whatever thou canst thyself discover or conceive, *from the greatness and beauty of the creatures mayest proportionably see the maker of them*³, and bending the knee with godly reverence to the Maker of the worlds, the worlds, I mean, of sense and thought, both visible and invisible, thou mayest with a grateful and holy tongue, with unwearied lips and heart, praise God and say, *How wonderful are Thy works, O Lord; in wisdom hast Thou made them all*⁴. For to Thee belongeth honour, and glory, and majesty, both now and throughout all ages. Amen.

Appendix to Lecture IX.

NOTE.—In the manuscripts which contain this discourse under the name of “A Homily of S. Basil *on God as Incomprehensible*,” some portions are changed to suit that subject: but the conclusion especially is marked by great addition and variation, which it is well to reproduce here. Accordingly in place of the words in §15: τί μεμπτόν, “What is there to find fault with?” and the following, the manuscripts before mentioned have it thus:

“What is there to find fault with in the framing of the body? Come forth into the midst and speak. Control thine own will, and nothing evil shall proceed from any of thy members. For every one of these has of necessity been made for our use. Chasten thy reasoning unto piety, submit to God’s commandments, and none of these members sin in working and serving in the uses for which they were made. If thou be not willing, the eye sees not amiss, the ear hears nothing which it ought not, the hand is not stretched out for wicked greed, the foot walketh not towards injustice, thou hast no strange loves, committest no fornication, covetest not thy neighbour’s wife. Drive out wicked thoughts from thine heart, be as God made thee, and thou wilt rather give thanks to thy Creator.

Adam at first was without clothing, faring daintily in Paradise: and after he had received the commandment, but failed to keep it, and wickedly stretched forth his hand (not because the hand wished this, but because his will stretched forth his hand to that which was forbidden), because of his disobedience he lost also the good things he had received. Thus the members are not the cause of sin to those who use them, but the wicked mind, as the Lord says, *For out of the heart proceed evil thoughts, fornications, adulteries, envyings, and such like.* In what things thou choosest, therein thy limbs serve thee; they are excellently made for the service of the soul: they are provided as servants to thy reason. Guide them well by the motion of piety; bridle them by the fear of God; bring them into subjection to the desire

¹[Job x. 11.](#)

²Xenophon (*Memor. Socratis*. I. cap. iv): "And moreover does not this also seem to thee like a work of providence, that, whereas the sight is weak, the Creator furnished it with eyelids for doors, which are opened whenever there is need to use the sight, but are closed in sleep."

³[Wisdom xiii. 5.](#)

⁴[Ps. civ. 24.](#)

56

of temperance and abstinence, and they will never rise up against thee to tyrannise over thee; but rather they will guard thee, and help thee more mightily in thy victory over the devil, while expecting also the incorruptible and everlasting crown of the victory. Who openeth the chambers of the womb? Who, &c."

At the end of the same section, after the words "Wise Creator," this is found: "Glorify Him in His unsearchable works, and concerning Him whom thou art not capable of knowing, inquire not curiously what His essence is. It is better for thee to keep silence, and in faith adore, according to the divine Word, than daringly to search after things which neither thou canst reach, nor Holy Scripture hath delivered to thee. These points my discourse has now treated at large, that thou mayest abhor those who blaspheme the wise and good Artificer, and rather mayest thyself also say, *How wonderful are Thy works O Lord; in wisdom hast Thou made them all.* To Thee be the glory, and power, and worship, with the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and throughout all ages. Amen."

57

Lecture X.

On the Clause, and in One Lord Jesus Christ, with a Reading from the [1 Cor. 8.5,6](#)

For though there be that are called gods, whether in heaven or on earth¹; yet to us there is One God, the Father, of whom are all things, and we in Him; and One Lord Jesus Christ, through whom are all things, and we through Him.

1. THEY who have been taught to believe "IN ONE GOD THE FATHER ALMIGHTY," ought also to believe in His Only-begotten Son. For *he that denieth the Son, the same hath not the Father²*. *I am the Door³*, saith Jesus; *no one cometh unto the Father but through Me⁴*. For if thou deny the Door, the knowledge concerning the Father is shut off from thee. *No man knoweth the father, save the Son, and he to whomsoever the Son shall reveal Him⁵*. For if thou deny Him who reveals, thou remainest in ignorance. There is a sentence in the Gospels, saying, *He that believeth not on the Son, shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him⁶*. For the Father hath indignation when the Only-begotten Son is set at nought. For it is grievous to a king that merely his soldier should be dishonoured; and when one of his nobler officers or friends is dishonoured, then his anger is greatly increased: but if any should do despite to the king's only-begotten son himself, who shall appease the father's indignation on behalf of his only-begotten son?

2. If, therefore, any one wishes to shew piety towards God, let him worship the Son, since otherwise the Father accepts not his service. The Father spake with a loud voice from heaven, saying, *This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased*⁷. The Father was well pleased; unless thou also be well pleased in Him, thou hast not life. Be not thou carried away with the Jews when they craftily say, There is one God alone; but with the knowledge that God is One, know that there is also an Only-begotten Son of God. I am not the first to say this, but the Psalmist in the person of the Son saith, *The Lord said unto Me, Thou art My Son*⁸. Heed not therefore what the Jews say, but what the Prophets say. Dost thou wonder that they who stoned and slew the Prophets, set at nought the Prophets' words?

3. Believe thou IN ONE LORD JESUS CHRIST, THE ONLY-BEGOTTEN SON OF GOD. For we say "One Lord Jesus Christ," that His Sonship may be "Only-begotten;" we say "One," that thou mayest not suppose another: we say "One," that thou mayest not profanely diffuse the many names⁹ of His action among many sons. For He is called a Door¹⁰; but take not the name literally for a thing of wood, but a spiritual, a living Door, discriminating those who enter in. He is called a Way¹¹, not one trodden by feet, but leading to the Father in heaven; He is called a Sheep¹², not an irrational one, but the one which through its precious blood cleanses the world from its sins, which is led before the shearers, and knows when to be silent. This Sheep again is called a Shepherd, who says, *I am the Good Shepherd*¹³: a Sheep because of His manhood, a Shepherd because of the loving-kindness of His Godhead. And wouldst thou know that there are rational sheep? the Saviour says to the Apostles, *Behold, I send you as sheep in the midst of wolves*¹⁴. Again, He is called a Lion¹⁵, not as a devourer of men, but indicating as it were by the title His kingly, and stedfast, and confident nature: a Lion He is also called in opposition to the lion our adver

¹[1 Cor. viii. 5, 6](#). Cyril omits the clause: *as there be gods many and lords many*.

²[1 John ii. 23](#).

³[1 John 10.9](#).

⁴[1 John 14.6](#).

⁵[Matt. xi. 27](#).

⁶[John iii. 36](#).

⁷[Matt. iii. 17](#).

⁸[Ps. ii. 7](#).

⁹τὸ πολυνώμουν, a word used by the Greek Poets of their gods, as by Homer (*Hymn to Demeter*, 18, 32) of Zeus, Κρόνου πολυνώμυμος υἱός. Cf. Soph. *Ant.* 1115; Æschyl. *Prom.* V. 210.

¹⁰[John x. 7, 9](#). Cyril calls Christ a "spiritual," or "rational" (λογικῇ) door, and applies the same term to His sheep, below. Origen (*In Evang. Joh.* Tom. i. cap. 29): Θύρα ὁ Σωτηρ ἀναγέγραπται, *ibid.* φιλόανθρωπος δὲ ὦν... ποιμὴν γίνεται.

¹¹[John xiv. 6](#).

¹²[John 1.29; Isa. 53.7,8; Acts 8.32](#).

¹³[John x. 11](#).

¹⁴[Matt. x. 10, 16](#).

¹⁵[Gen. 49.9; Rev. 5.5.](#)

58

sary, who roars and devours those who have been deceived¹. For the Saviour came, not as having changed the gentleness of His own nature, but as the strong *Lion of the tribe of Judah*², saving them that believe, but treading down the adversary. He is called a Stone, not a lifeless stone, cut out by men's hands, but a *chief corner-stone*³, on whom *whosoever believeth shall not be put to shame*.

4. He is called CHRIST, not as having been anointed by men's hands, but eternally anointed by the Father to His High-Priesthood on behalf of men⁴. He is called Dead, not as having abode among the dead, as all in Hades, but as being alone *free among the dead*⁵. He is called Son of Man, not as having had His generation from earth, as each of us, but as coming upon the clouds TO JUDGE BOTH QUICK AND DEAD⁶. He is called LORD, not improperly as those who are so called among men, but as having a natural and eternal Lordship⁷. He is called JESUS by a fitting name, as having the appellation from His salutary healing. He is called SON, not as advanced by adoption, but as naturally begotten. And many are the titles of our Saviour; lest, therefore, His manifold appellations should make thee think of many sons, and because of the errors of the heretics, who say that Christ is one, and Jesus another, and the Door another, and so on⁸, the Faith secures thee beforehand, saying well, IN ONE LORD JESUS CHRIST: for though the titles are many, yet their subject is one.

5. But the Saviour comes in various forms to each man for his profit⁹. For to those who have need of gladness He becomes a Vine; and to those who want to enter in He stands as a Door; and to those who need to offer up their prayers He stands a mediating High Priest. Again, to those who have sins He becomes a Sheep, that He may be sacrificed for them. *He is made all things to all men*¹⁰, remaining in His own nature what He is. For so remaining, and holding the dignity of His Sonship in reality unchangeable, He adapts Himself to our infirmities, just as some excellent physician or compassionate teacher; though He is Very Lord, and received not the Lordship by advancement¹¹, but has the dignity of His Lordship from nature, and is not called Lord improperly¹², as we are, but is so in verity, since by the Father's bidding¹³ He is Lord of His own works. For our lordship is over men of equal rights and like passions, nay often over our elders, and often a young master rules over aged servants. But in the case of our Lord Jesus Christ the Lordship is not so: but He is first Maker, then Lord¹⁴: first He made all things by the Father's will, then, He is Lord of the things which were made by Him.

6. *Christ the Lord* is He who was *born in the city of David*¹⁵. And wouldest thou know

¹¹[Pet. v. 8.](#)

²[Ps. cxviii. 22.](#)

³[Is. xxviii. 16; 1 Pet. ii. 4-6.](#)

⁴The reading of the earlier Editions ὑπὲρ ἀνθρώπων is free from all difficulty, and so the more likely to have been substituted for what is at first sight more difficult ὑπὲρ ἄνθρωπον, the reading of Cod. Coislin. adopted by the Benedictine and subsequent Editors. The idea of a super-human Priesthood to which the Son in His Divine nature was anointed by the Father from eternity is repeated by Cyril in § 14 of this Lecture, and in Cat. xi. 1, 14. See Index, "Priesthood," and the reference there given to a fuller consideration of the subject in the Introduction.

⁵[Ps. lxxxviii. 5.](#)

⁶[John v. 27.](#) Comparing what Cyril says here with Cat. iv. 15, and xv. 10, we see that he means to explain why Christ is called the "Son of Man" when "He cometh again from heaven," and "no more from earth." The preceding clause refers to His first coming in the flesh, as differing in the manner of His conception and birth from other men.

⁷Cf. Athanas. (*c. Arian*. II. xv. 14), "That very Word who was by nature Lord, and was then made man, hath by means of a servant's form been made Lord of all and Christ."

⁸Cf. Irenæus (III. xvi. 8): “All therefore are outside the Dispensation, who under pretence of knowledge understand that Jesus was one, and Christ another, and the Only-begotten another (from whom again is the Word), and the Saviour another.” The Cerinthians, Ebionites, Ophites, and Valentinians are mentioned by Irenæus as thus separating the Christ from Jesus.

⁹Cf. Athanas. (*Epist. X.*): “Since He is rich and manifold, He varies Himself according to the individual capacity of each soul.”

¹⁰[1 Cor. ix. 22.](#)

¹¹ἐκ προκοπῆς. We learn from Athanasius (c. *Arian. i.* 37, 38, 40), that from St. Paul’s language *Philipp. ii.* 9: “Wherefore also God highly exalted Him, &c.,” and from [Ps. xlv. 7](#): “Thou hast loved righteousness and hated iniquity: therefore God, thy God, hath anointed thee with the oil of gladness above thy fellows,” the Arians argued that Christ first received Divine honour as Son and Lord as the reward of His obedience as Man. Athanasius replies (c. 40): “He was not from a lower state promoted; but rather, existing as God, He took the form of a servant, and in taking it was not promoted but humbled Himself. Where then is there here any reward of virtue, or what advancement (προκοπή) and promotion in humiliation?”

The same doctrine had been previously held by the disciples of Paul of Samosata, who said that Christ was not originally God, but after His Incarnation was by advance (ἐκ προκοπῆς) made God, from being made by nature a mere man: see Athanas. (*de Decretis*, § 24, c. *Arian. i.* 38). S. Cyril refers to the error and uses the same word, in xi. 1, 7, 13, 15, 17, and xiv. 27.

¹²καταχρηστικῶς, i.e. in a secondary or metaphorical sense. Cf. vii. 5.

¹³νεύματι, “command” or “bidding,” as expressed by nodding the head.

¹⁴Origen (*De Principiis*, I. ii. 10) had argued that “even God cannot be called omnipotent, unless there exist those over whom He may exercise His power,” and therefore creation must have been eternal, or God could not have been eternally Omnipotent. In other passages Origen declares it an impiety to hold that matter is co-eternal with God (*De Princip. II. i.* 4), and yet maintains that there were other worlds before this, and that there was never a time when there was no world existing.

Methodius, in a fragment of his work *On things Created*, preserved by Photius, and quoted by Bishop Bull (*Def. Fid. Nic.* II. xiii. 9), argues against these theories of Origen, that in [John i. 2](#) the words “The same was in the beginning with God” indicate the authority (τὸ ἐξουσιαστικόν) of the Word which He had with the Father before the world came into existence; since from all eternity God the Father, together with His Word, possessed the Almighty power whereby whenever He would He could create worlds to rule over.

Dean Church remarks that “On the other hand Tertullian, *contra Hermog.* 3, considering the attributes in question to belong not to the Divine Nature, but Office, denies that God was Almighty (Lord?) from eternity; while the Greeks affirmed this (vid. Cyril Alex. *in Joann.* xvii. 8, p. 963; Athan. *Orat.* ii. 12–14), as understanding by the term the inherent but latent attribute of doing what He had not yet done, τὸ ἐξουσιαστικόν.”

Cleopas, the Jerusalem Editor, regards the passage as directed against Paul of Samosata, who asserted that Christ had become God, and received His kingdom and Lordship only after His Incarnation, and remarks:—“S. Cyril evidently regards the Lordship of Jesus Christ as twofold: one that which from eternity belonged to Him as God, which he calls natural, according to which ‘He was ever both Lord and King, as being by nature God’ (Cyril Alex. *in Johann.* cap. xvii.); and the other the Lordship in time relative to the creatures, by which He exercises dominion over the works created by Him, as being their Maker.”

¹⁵[Luke ii. 11.](#)

that Christ is Lord with the Father even before His Incarnation¹, that thou mayest not only accept the statement by

faith, but mayest also receive proof from the Old Testament? Go to the first book, Genesis: God saith, *Let us make man*, not 'in My image,' but, *in Our image*². And after Adam was made, the sacred writer says, *And God created man; in the image of God created He him*³. For he did not limit the dignity of the Godhead to the Father alone, but included the Son also: that it might be shewn that man is not only the work of God, but also of our Lord Jesus Christ, who is Himself also Very God. This Lord, who works together with the Father, wrought with Him also in the case of Sodom, according to the Scripture: *And the Lord rained upon Sodom and Gomorrah fire and brimstone from the Lord out of heaven*⁴. This Lord is He who afterwards was seen of Moses, as much as he was able to see. For the Lord is loving unto man, ever condescending to our infirmities.

7. Moreover, that you may be sure that this is He who was seen of Moses, hear Paul's testimony, when he says, *For they all drank of a spiritual rock that followed them; and the rock was Christ*⁵. And again: *By faith Moses forsook Egypt*⁶, and shortly after he says, *accounting the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt*⁷. This Moses says to Him, *Shew me Thyself*. Thou seest that the Prophets also in those times saw the Christ, that is, as far as each was able. *Shew me Thyself, that I may see Thee with understanding*⁸. But He saith, *There shall no man see My face, and live*⁹. For this reason then, because no man could see the face of the Godhead and live, He took on Him the face of human nature, that we might see this and live. And yet when He wished to shew even that with a little majesty, when *His face did shine as the sun*¹⁰, the disciples fell down affrighted. If then His bodily countenance, shining not in the full power of Him that wrought, but according to the capacity of the Disciples, affrighted them, so that even thus they could not bear it, how could any man gaze upon the majesty of the Godhead? 'A great thing,' saith the Lord, 'thou desirest, O Moses: and I approve thine insatiable desire, and I will do this thing'¹¹ for thee, but according as thou art able. *Behold, I will put thee in the clift of the rock*¹²: for as being little, thou shalt lodge in a little space.'

8. Now here I wish you to make safe what I am going to say, because of the Jews. For our object is to prove that the Lord Jesus Christ was with the Father. The LORD then says to Moses, *I will pass by before thee with My glory, and will proclaim the name of the LORD before thee*¹³. Being Himself the LORD, what LORD doth He proclaim? Thou seest how He was covertly teaching the godly doctrine of the Father and the Son. And again, in what follows it is written word for word: *And the LORD descended in the cloud, and stood with him there, and proclaimed the name of the LORD. And the LORD passed by before him, and proclaimed, The LORD, the LORD God, merciful and gracious, long-suffering, and abundant in goodness and truth, both keeping righteousness and shewing mercy unto thousands, taking away iniquities, and transgressions, and sins*¹⁴. Then in what follows, *Moses bowed his head and worshipped*¹⁵ before the Lord who proclaimed the Father, and said: Go Thou then, O Lord, in the midst of us¹⁶.

9. This is the first proof: receive now a second plain one. *The LORD said unto my Lord, sit Thou on My right hand*¹⁷. The LORD says this to the Lord, not to a servant, but to the Lord of all, and His own Son, to whom He put all things in subjection. *But when He saith that all things are put under Him, it is manifest that He is excepted, which did put all things under Him*, and what follows; *that God may be all in all*¹⁸. The Only-begotten Son is Lord of all, but the obedient Son of the Father, for He grasped not the Lordship¹⁹, but received it by nature of the Father's own will. For neither did the Son grasp it, nor the Father grudge to impart it. He it is who saith, *All things are delivered unto Me of My Father*²⁰; "delivered unto Me, not as though

¹Among those who denied the Divine præ-existence of Christ Cleopas enumerates Ebion, Carpocrates, Theodotus, Artemon, Paul of Samosata, Marcellus, and Photinus.

²Gen. i. 26.

³Gen. 1.27.

⁴Gen. 19.24.

⁵1 Cor. x. 4.

⁶Heb. xi. 27.

⁷[Heb. xi. 26.](#) Quoting from memory Cyril mistakes the order of the two sentences.

⁸[Ex. xxxiii. 13.](#) Cyril means that even before His Incarnation Christ was seen as far as was possible by Prophets such as Moses. This view was held by many of the Fathers before Cyril. See Justin M. (*Tryph.* § 56 ff.); Tertull. (*adv. Praxean*, § 16); Euseb. (*Demonstr. Evang.* V. 13–16).

⁹[Ex. xxxiii. 20.](#)

¹⁰[Matt. xvii. 2.](#)

¹¹[Ex. xxxiii. 17.](#) Gr. λόγον, “word,” in imitation of the Hebrew idiom.

¹²[Ex. xxxiii. 22.](#)

¹³[Ex. xxxiii. 19.](#) Literally “will call in the name of the Lord (Jehovah):” compare [Gen. iv. 26.](#)

¹⁴[Ex. xxxiv. 5-7.](#) For “keeping righteousness and shewing mercy,” the Hebrew has only “keeping mercy.”

¹⁵[Ex. xxxiv. 8.](#)

¹⁶[Ex. 34.9.](#)

¹⁷[Ps. cx. 1.](#) Heb. “An oracle of Jehovah unto my lord.” Cyril’s argument is based upon the common mistake of supposing that Κύριος represents the same Hebrew word in both parts of the sentence.

¹⁸[1 Cor. xv. 27, 28.](#)

¹⁹Cyril evidently alludes to [Philip. ii. 6.](#) “Who being in the form of God thought it not a prize to be on an equality with God:” for the right interpretation of which passage, see Dean Gwynn’s notes in the *Speaker’s Commentary*.

²⁰[Matt. xi. 27;](#) [Luke x. 22.](#) On this text Athanasius wrote a special treatise (*In illud ‘Omnia,’ &c.*), against the arguments of Arius, Eusebius, and their fellows, who said,—“If all things were delivered (meaning by ‘all’ the Lordship of Creation), there was once a time when He had them not. But if He had them not, He is not of the Father, for if He were, He would on that account have had them always.”

Again (*contr. Arian. Orat.* III. cap. xxvii. § 36), Athanasius argues: “Lest a man, perceiving that the Son has all that the Father hath, from the exact likeness and identity of what He hath, should wander into the impiety of Sabellius, considering Him to be the Father, therefore He has said, *Was given unto Me*, and *I received*, and *Were delivered to Me*, only to shew that He is not the Father, but the Father’s Word, and the Eternal Son, who, because of His likeness to the Father, has eternally what He has from Him, and because He is the Son, has from the Father what eternally He hath.”

I had them not before; and I keep them well, not robbing Him who hath given them.”

10. The Son of God then is Lord: He is Lord, who was born in Bethlehem of Judæa, according to the Angel who said to the shepherds, *I bring you good tidings of great joy, that unto you is born this day in the city of David Christ the Lord*¹: of whom an Apostle says elsewhere, *The word which God sent unto the children of Israel, preaching the gospel of peace by Jesus Christ: He is Lord of all*². But when he says, *of all*, do thou except nothing from His Lordship: for whether Angels, or Archangels, or principalities, or powers, or any created thing named by the Apostles, all are under the Lordship of the Son. Of Angels He is Lord, as thou hast it in the Gospels, *Then the Devil departed from Him, and the Angels came and ministered unto Him*³; for the Scripture saith not, they succoured Him, but they *ministered unto Him*, that is, like servants. When He was about to be born of a Virgin, Gabriel was then His servant, having received His service as a peculiar dignity. When He was about to go into

Egypt, that He might overthrow the gods of Egypt made with hands⁴, again *an Angel appeareth to Joseph in a dream*⁵. After He had been crucified, and had risen again, an Angel brought the good tidings, and as a trustworthy servant said to the women, *Go, tell His disciples that He is risen, and goeth before you into Galilee; lo, I have told you*⁶: almost as if he had said, “I have not neglected my command, I protest that I have told you; that if ye disregard it, the blame may not be on me, but on those who disregard it.” This then is the One Lord Jesus Christ, of whom the lesson just now read speaks: *For though there be many that are called gods, whether in heaven or in earth, and so on, yet to us there is One God, the Father, of whom are all things, and we in Him; and One Lord, Jesus Christ, through whom are all things, and we through Him*⁷.

11. And He is called by two names, Jesus Christ; Jesus, because He saves,—Christ, because He is a Priest⁸. And knowing this the inspired Prophet Moses conferred these two titles on two men distinguished above all⁹: his own successor in the government, Auses¹⁰, he renamed Jesus; and his own brother Aaron he surnamed Christ¹¹, that by two well-approved men he might represent at once both the High Priesthood, and the Kingship of the One Jesus Christ who was to come. For Christ is a High Priest like Aaron; since He *glorified not Himself to be made a High Priest, but He that spake unto Him, Thou art a Priest for ever after the order of Melchizedek*¹². And Jesus the son of Nave was in many things a type of Him. For when he began to rule over the people, he began from Jordan¹³, whence Christ also, after He was baptized, began to preach the gospel. And the son of Nave appoints twelve to divide the inheritance¹⁴; and twelve Apostles Jesus sends forth, as heralds of the truth, into all the world. The typical Jesus saved Rahab the harlot when she believed: and the true Jesus says, *Behold, the publicans and the harlots go before you into the kingdom of God*¹⁵. With only a shout the walls of Jericho fell down in the time of the type: and because Jesus said, *There shall not be left here one stone upon another*¹⁶, the Temple of the Jews opposite to us is fallen, the cause of its fall not being the denunciation but the sin of the transgressors.

12. There is One Lord Jesus Christ, a wondrous name, indirectly announced beforehand by the Prophets. For Esaias the Prophet says, *Behold, thy Saviour cometh, having His own reward*¹⁷. Now Jesus in Hebrew is by interpretation *Saviour*. For the Prophetic gift, foreseeing the murderous spirit of the Jews against their Lord¹⁸, veiled His name, lest from knowing it plainly beforehand they might plot against Him readily. But He was openly called Jesus not by men, but by an Angel, who came not by his own authority, but was sent by the power of God, and said to Joseph, *Fear not to take unto thee Mary thy wife; for that which is con*

¹[Luke ii. 10, 11.](#)

²[Acts x. 36.](#)

³[Matt. iv. 11.](#)

⁴[Isa. xix. 1.](#) “Behold, the Lord rideth upon a swift cloud, and cometh unto Egypt: and the idols of Egypt shall be moved at His presence.” The prophecy was supposed by many of the Fathers to have been fulfilled by the flight into Egypt. Cf. Athanas. (*Ep. LXI. ad Maximum*, § 4): “As a child He came down to Egypt, and brought to nought its idols made with hands:” and (*de Incarn.* § 36): “Which of the righteous men or kings went down into Egypt, so that at his coming the idols of Egypt fell?” On the passage of Isaiah see Delitzsch, and Kay (*Speaker's Commentary*).

⁵[Matt. ii. 13.](#)

⁶[Matt. 28.7.](#)

⁷[1 Cor. viii. 5, 6.](#)

⁸Compare Eusebius (*Eccl. Hist.* I. cap. iii.), a passage which Cyril seems to have followed in his explanation of the names ‘Jesus’ and ‘Christ.’

⁹For the common reading ἐγκρίτοις πάντων Cod. Mon. I. has ἐκκρίτοις π. which is required both by the

construction and the sense. The change may have been caused by the occurrence of ἐγκρίτων just below.

¹⁰Eusebius (*u.s.*): “His successor, therefore, who had not hitherto borne the name Jesus, but had been called by another name, Auses, which had been given him by his parents, he now called Jesus, bestowing the name upon him as a gift of honour far greater than any kingly diadem.” Auses is a common corruption of the name Oshea. See the note on the passage of Eusebius in this series.

¹¹Eusebius: “He consecrated a man high-priest of God, in so far as that was possible, and him he called Christ.” Cf. [Lev. iv. 5, 16](#); [vi. 22](#): ὁ ἱερεὺς ὁ Χριστός

¹²[Heb. v. 4, 5, 6](#). Cyril omits from his quotation the reference to [Ps. ii. 7](#): “Thou art My Son: this day have I begotten Thee.”

¹³[Josh. iii. 1](#).

¹⁴[Josh. 14.1](#).

¹⁵[Matt. xxi. 31](#).

¹⁶[Matt. xxiv. 2](#).

¹⁷[Isa. lxii. 11](#): “Behold, thy salvation cometh; behold, his reward is with him.”

¹⁸τὸ κυριοκτόνον τῶν Ἰουδαίων.

61

ceived in her is of the Holy Ghost. And she shall bring forth a Son, and thou shalt call His name Jesus¹. And immediately he renders the reason of this name, saying, for He shall save His people from their sins. Consider how He who was not yet born could have a *people*, unless He was in being before He was born². This also the Prophet says in His person, *From the bowels of my mother hath He made mention of My name*³; because the Angel foretold that He should be called Jesus. And again concerning Herod's plot against him he says, *And under the shadow of His hand hath He hid Me*⁴.

13. Jesus then means according to the Hebrew “Saviour,” but in the Greek tongue “The Healer;” since He is physician of souls and bodies, curer of spirits, curing the blind in body⁵, and leading minds into light, healing the visibly lame, and guiding sinners' steps to repentance, saying to the palsied, *Sin no more*, and, *Take up thy bed and walk*⁶. For since the body was palsied for the sin of the soul, He ministered first to the soul that He might extend the healing to the body. If, therefore, any one is suffering in soul from sins, there is the Physician for him: and if any one here is of little faith, let him say to Him, *Help Thou mine unbelief*⁷. If any is encompassed also with bodily ailments, let him not be faithless, but let him draw nigh; for to such diseases also Jesus ministers⁸, and let him learn that Jesus is the Christ.

14. For that He is Jesus the Jews allow, but not further that He is Christ. Therefore saith the Apostle, *Who is the liar, but he that denieth that Jesus is the Christ*⁹? But Christ is a High Priest, *whose priesthood passes not to another*¹⁰, neither having begun His Priesthood in time¹¹, nor having any successor in His High-Priesthood: as thou heardest on the Lord's day, when we were discoursing in the congregation¹² on the phrase, *After the Order of Melchizedek*. He received not the High-Priesthood from bodily succession, nor was He anointed with oil prepared by man¹³, but before all ages by the Father; and He so far excels the others as *with an oath* He is made Priest: *For they are priests without an oath, but He with an oath by Him that said, The Lord sware, and will not repent*¹⁴. The mere purpose of the Father was sufficient for surety: but the mode of assurance is twofold, namely that with the purpose there follows the oath also, *that by two immutable things, in which it was impossible for God to lie, we might have strong encouragement*¹⁵ for our faith, who receive Christ Jesus as the Son of God.

15. This Christ, when He was come, the Jews denied, but the devils confessed. But His forefather David was not

ignorant of Him, when he said, *I have ordained a lamp for mine Anointed*¹⁶: which lamp some have interpreted to be the brightness of Prophecy¹⁷, others the flesh which He took upon Him from the Virgin, according to the Apostle's word, *But we have this treasure in earthen vessels*¹⁸. The Prophet was not ignorant of Him, when He said, *and announceth unto men His Christ*¹⁹. Moses also knew Him, Isaiah knew Him, and Jeremiah; not one of the Prophets was ignorant of Him. Even devils recognised Him, for He rebuked them, and the Scripture says, *because they knew that He was Christ*²⁰. The Chief-priests knew Him not, and the devils confessed Him: the Chief Priests knew Him not, and a woman of Samaria proclaimed Him, saying, *Come, see a man which told me all things that ever I did. Is not this the Christ*²¹?

16. This is Jesus Christ who came *a High-Priest of the good things to come*²²; who for the bountifulness of His Godhead imparted His own title to us all. For kings among men have their royal style which others may not share: but Jesus Christ being the Son of God gave us the dignity of being called Christians. But some one will say, The name of "Christians" is new, and was not in use aforetime²³: and new-fashioned phrases are often objected to

¹[Matt. i. 20.](#)

²The Anathema appended to the Creed of Nicæa condemns those who said πρὶν γεννηθῆναι οὐκ ἦν. On this Eusebius of Cæsarea (*Epist.* § 9) remarks: "Moreover to anathematize 'Before His generation He was not,' did not seem preposterous, in that it is confessed by all, that the Son of God was before the generation according to the flesh."

³[Isa. xlix. 1.](#)

⁴[Isa. 49.2.](#)

⁵τυφλῶν αἰσθητῶν.

⁶[John v. 14, 8.](#)

⁷[Mark ix. 24.](#)

⁸Compare the fragment of the Apology of Quadratus presented to Hadrian 127 A.D., preserved by Eusebius (*H.E.* IV. iii.): "But the works of our Saviour were always present, for they were genuine:—those that were healed, and those that arose from the dead, who were seen not only when they were healed and when they were raised, but were also always present; and not merely while the Saviour was on earth, but also after His death they were alive for a long while, so that some of them survived even to our times." See the notes on the passage of Eusebius, in this series.

⁹[1 John ii. 22.](#)

¹⁰[Heb. vii. 24.](#)

¹¹On the opinion that Christ was from all eternity the true High Priest of the Creation, see Index, *Priesthood*, and the reference there given to the Introduction. Cf. x. 4: xi. 1. Athan (c. Arian. *Or.* ii. 12, *J. H. N.*).

¹²The word 'synaxis' was used by the early Christians to distinguish their assemblies from the Jewish 'synagogue,' a word formed from the same root and more regularly. 'Synaxis' came to be used more especially of a celebration of the Eucharist. See Suicer, *Thesaurus*, Σύναξις.

¹³σκευαστῶ, [Ex. xxx. 22-25](#): "a perfume compounded (μυρεψικόν) after the art of the perfumer" (R.V.).

¹⁴[Heb. vii. 21.](#)

¹⁵[Heb. 6. 18.](#)

¹⁶[Ps. cxxxii. 17.](#) The “lamp for the Anointed” was commonly applied by the Fathers to John the Baptist. Compare [John v. 35](#), and Bishop Westcott’s note there.

¹⁷[2 Pet. i. 19.](#) The supposed reference in the Psalm to the lamp of prophecy is mentioned by Eusebius (*Demonstr. Evang.* IV. cap. 16).

¹⁸[2 Cor. iv. 7.](#) The reference of the ‘lamp’ to Christ’s Incarnation is mentioned by Eusebius (*u.s.*) and other Fathers.

¹⁹[Amos. iv. 13:](#) “and declareth unto man what is his thought.” For יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵינוּ, ‘what is his thought,’ the LXX. read ὁ ἁγίος, ‘His Anointed,’ τὸν Χριστὸν αὐτοῦ.

²⁰[Luke iv. 41.](#)

²¹[John iv. 29.](#)

²²[Heb. ix. 11.](#)

²³οὐκ ἐπολιτεύετο, “was not in citizenship,” “not naturalised.” Cf. Sueton. *Nero*. cap. 16: “Christiani, genus hominum superstitionis novae et maleficae.”

62

on the score of strangeness¹. The prophet made this point safe beforehand, saying, *But upon My servants shall a new name be called, which shall be blessed upon the earth*². Let us question the Jews: Are ye servants of the Lord, or not? Shew then your new name. For ye were called Jews and Israelites in the time of Moses, and the other prophets, and after the return from Babylon, and up to the present time: where then is your new name? But we, since we are servants of the Lord, have that new name: *new* indeed, but the *new name, which shall be blessed upon the earth*. This name caught the world in its grasp: for Jews are only in a certain region, but Christians reach to the ends of the world: for it is the name of the Only-begotten Son of God that is proclaimed.

17. But wouldest thou know that the Apostles knew and preached the name of Christ, or rather had Christ Himself within them? Paul says to his hearers, *Or seek ye a proof of Christ that speaketh in me*³? Paul proclaims Christ, saying, *For we preach not ourselves, but Christ Jesus as Lord, and ourselves your servants for Jesus’ sake*⁴. Who then is this? The former persecutor. O mighty wonder! The former persecutor himself preaches Christ. But wherefore? Was he bribed? Nay there was none to use this mode of persuasion. But was it that he saw Him present on earth, and was abashed? He had already been taken up into heaven. He went forth to persecute, and after three days the persecutor is a preacher in Damascus. By what power? Others call friends as witnesses for friends but I have presented to you as a witness the former enemy: and dost thou still doubt? The testimony of Peter and John, though weighty, was yet of a kind open to suspicion: for they were His friends. But of one who was formerly his enemy, and afterwards dies for His sake, who can any longer doubt the truth?

18. At this point of my discourse I am truly filled with wonder at the wise dispensation of the Holy Spirit; how He confined the Epistles of the rest to a small number, but to Paul the former persecutor gave the privilege of writing fourteen. For it was not because Peter or John was less that He restrained the gift; God forbid! But in order that the doctrine might be beyond question, He granted to the former enemy and persecutor the privilege of writing more, in order that we all might thus be made believers. For *all were amazed* at Paul, and said, *Is not this he that was formerly a persecutor*⁵? Did he not come hither, that he might lead us away bound to Jerusalem? Be not amazed, said Paul, I know that *it is hard for me to kick against the pricks*: I know that *I am not worthy to be called an Apostle, because I persecuted the Church of God*⁶; but I did it *in ignorance*⁷: for I thought that the preaching of Christ was destruction of the Law, and knew not that He came Himself to fulfil the Law and not to destroy it⁸. *But the grace of God was exceeding abundant in me*⁹.

19. Many, my beloved, are the true testimonies concerning Christ. The Father bears witness from heaven of His

Son: the Holy Ghost bears witness, descending bodily in likeness of a dove: the Archangel Gabriel bears witness, bringing good tidings to Mary: the Virgin Mother of God¹⁰ bears witness: the blessed place of the manger bears witness. Egypt bears witness, which received the Lord while yet young in the body¹¹: Symeon bears witness, who received Him in his arms, and said, *Now, Lord, lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace, according to Thy word; for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast prepared before the face of all people*¹². Anna also, the prophetess, a most devout widow, of austere life, bears witness of Him. John the Baptist bears witness, the greatest among the Prophets, and leader of the New Covenant, who in a manner united both Covenants in Himself, the Old and the New. Jordan is His witness among rivers; the sea of Tiberias among seas: blind and lame bear witness, and dead men raised to life, and devils saying, *What have we to do with Thee, Jesus? we know Thee, who Thou art, the Holy One of God*¹³. Winds bear witness, silenced at His bidding: five loaves multiplied into five

¹τὸ ξένον.

²[Isa. lxx. 15, 16](#). The LXX. here depart from the meaning of the Hebrew: "*He shall call His servants by another name: so that he who blesseth himself in the earth shall bless himself in the God of truth*" (R.V.).

³[2 Cor. xiii. 3](#).

⁴[2 Cor. 4.5](#).

⁵[Acts ix. 21](#).

⁶[1 Cor. xv. 9](#).

⁷[1 Tim. i. 13](#).

⁸[Matt. v. 17](#).

⁹[1 Tim. i. 14](#).

¹⁰ἡ θεοτόκος— *Deipara*. Gibbon (Chap. xlvii. 34) says, "It is not easy to fix the invention of this word, which La Croze (*Christianisme des Indes*, tom. i. p. 16) ascribes to Eusebius of Cæsarea and the Arians. The orthodox testimonies are produced by Cyril (of Alexandria) and Petavius (*Dogmat. Theolog.* tom. v. L. v. cap. 15, p. 254, &c.), but the veracity of the Saint is questionable, and the epithet of θεοτόκος so easily slides from the margin to the text of a Catholic ms." This passage is justly described as "Gibbon's calumny" by Dr. Newman: see his notes on the title θεοτόκος (*Athan. c. Arian. Or.* ii. cap. 12, n.; *Or.* iii. capp. 14, 29, 33). The word is certainly used by Origen (*Deut.* xxii. 13, Lommatzch. Tom. x. p. 378): "She that is already betrothed is called a wife, as also in the case of Joseph and the Theotokos." Cf. Archelaus (*Disput. cum Mane*, cap. xxxiv. "qui de Maria Dei Genetrix natus est"); Eusebius (*de Vita Constantini*, III. cap. 43: "The pious Empress adorned with rare memorials the place of the travail of the Theotokos"). For other examples see Suicer's *Thesaurus*, θεοτόκος, Pearson, *Creed*, Art. iii. notes l, m, n, o, and Routh, *Reliq. Sacr.* ii. p. 332.

¹¹"Chrysostom describing the flourishing state of the Church in Egypt in those times, says: 'Egypt welcomes and saves Him when a fugitive and plotted against, and receives a beginning as it were of its appropriation to Him, in order that when it shall hear Him proclaimed by the Apostles, it may in their day also be honoured as having been first to welcome Him'" (Cleopas).

¹²[Luke ii. 29, 30](#).

¹³[Mark i. 24](#).

thousand bear Him witness. The holy wood of the Cross bears witness, seen among us to this day, and from this place now almost filling the whole world, by means of those who in faith take portions from it¹. The palm-tree² on the ravine bears witness, having supplied the palm-branches to the children who then hailed Him. Gethsemane³ bears witness, still to the thoughtful almost shewing Judas. Golgotha⁴, the holy hill standing above us here, bears witness to our sight: the Holy Sepulchre bears witness, and the stone which lies there⁵ to this day. The sun now shining is His witness, which then at the time of His saving Passion was eclipsed⁶: the darkness is His witness, which was then from the sixth hour to the ninth: the light bears witness, which shone forth from the ninth hour until evening. The Mount of Olives bears witness, that holy mount from which He ascended to the Father: the rain-bearing clouds are His witnesses, having received their Lord: yea, and the gates of heaven bear witness [having received their Lord⁷], concerning which the Psalmist said, *Lift up your doors, O ye Princes, and be ye lift up ye everlasting doors; and the King of Glory shall come in*⁸. His former enemies bear witness, of whom the blessed Paul is one, having been a little while His enemy, but for a long time His servant: the Twelve Apostles are His witnesses, having preached the truth not only in words, but also by their own torments and deaths: *the shadow of Peter*⁹ bears witness, having healed the sick in the name of Christ. The handkerchiefs and aprons bear witness, as in like manner by Christ's power they wrought cures of old through Paul¹⁰. Persians¹¹ and Goths¹², and all the Gentile converts bear witness, by dying for His sake, whom they never saw with eyes of flesh: the devils, who to this day¹³ are driven out by the faithful, bear witness to Him.

20. So many and diverse, yea and more than these, are His witnesses: is then the Christ thus witnessed any longer disbelieved? Nay rather if there is any one who formerly believed not, let him now believe: and if any was before a believer, let him receive a greater increase of faith, by believing in our Lord Jesus Christ, and let him understand whose name he bears. Thou art called a Christian: be tender of the name; let not our Lord Jesus Christ, the Son of God, be blasphemed through thee: but rather *let your good works shine before men*¹⁴ that they who see them may in Christ Jesus our Lord glorify the Father which is in heaven: To whom be the glory, both now and for ever and ever. Amen.

¹See Cat. iv. 10, note 7.

²The Bordeaux Pilgrim, who visited the Holy Places of Jerusalem, A.D. 333, c. speaks of this palm-tree as still existing. The longevity of the palm was proverbial: cf. Aristot. (*De Longitudine Vitæ*, c. iv. 2).

³The same Pilgrim (as quoted by the Benedictine Editor) says, "There is also the rock where Judas Iscariot betrayed Christ." Compare Cat. xiii. 38.

⁴See Index, *Golgotha*.

⁵See the passage of the Introduction referred to in Index, *Sepulchre*.

⁶See Cat. ii. 15, note 8, and xiii. 25, 34, 38. On the supernatural character of the darkness mentioned in the Gospels see Meyer, *Commentary*, [Matt. xxvii. 45](#). An eclipse of the sun was of course impossible, as the moon was full. Mr. J. R. Hind (*Historical Eclipses*, "Times," 19th July, 1872) states that the solar eclipse, mentioned by Phlegon the freedman of Hadrian, which occurred on Nov. 24, A.D. 29, and was partial at Jerusalem, is "the only solar eclipse that could have been visible at Jerusalem during the period usually fixed for the ministry of Christ." He adds, "The Moon was eclipsed on the generally received date of the Crucifixion, 3 April, A.D. 33. I find she had emerged from the earth's dark shadow a quarter of an hour before she rose at Jerusalem (6:36 p.m.), but the penumbra continued upon her disc for an hour afterwards." Thus the "darkness from the sixth hour unto the ninth" cannot be explained as the natural effect of an eclipse either solar or lunar.

⁷This clause is omitted in Codd. Mon. 1, 2, Roe, Casaub., and is probably repeated from the preceding line: such repetitions, however, are not uncommon in Cyril's style.

⁸[Ps. xxiv. 7](#). The first clause is mistranslated by the LXX. from whom Cyril quotes.

⁹[Acts v. 15](#).

¹⁰[Acts 19.12.](#)

¹¹The persecution of the Christians in Persia by Sapor II. is described at length by Sozomen (*E.H.* II. cc. ix.–xv., in this Series). It commenced in A.D. 343, and was going on at the date of these Lectures and long after. “During fifty years the Cross lay prostrate in blood and ashes” (*Dict. Bib.* ‘Sassanidæ’). Compare Neander, *Church History*, Tom. III. p 148, Bohn.)

¹²The Goths here mentioned are the *Gothi minores* dwelling on the north of the Danube, where Ulfilas, “the Apostle of the Goths” (311–381), converted many of his countrymen to Christianity. After suffering severe persecution, he was allowed by the Constantius to take refuge with his Arian converts in Mœsia and Thrace. This migration took place in 348 A.D., the same year in which Cyril’s Lectures were delivered.

¹³See Index, *Exorcism*.

¹⁴[Matt. v. 16.](#)

64

Lecture XI.

On the Words, the Only-Begotten Son of God, Begotten of the Father Very God
Before All Ages, by Whom All Things Were Made.

[HEBREWS I. 1](#)

God, who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in times past unto the Fathers by the Prophets, hath in these last days spoken unto us by His Son.

1. THAT we have hope in Jesus Christ has been sufficiently shewn, according to our ability, in what we delivered to you yesterday. But we must not simply believe in Christ Jesus nor receive Him as one of the many who are improperly called Christs¹. For they were figurative Christs, but He is the true Christ; not having risen by advancement² from among men to the Priesthood, but ever having the dignity of the Priesthood from the Father³. And for this cause the Faith guarding us beforehand lest we should suppose Him to be one of the ordinary Christs, adds to the profession of the Faith, that we believe IN ONE LORD JESUS CHRIST, THE ONLY-BEGOTTEN SON OF GOD.

2. And again on hearing of a “Son,” think not of an adopted son but a Son by nature⁴, an Only-begotten Son, having no brother. For this is the reason why He is called “Only-begotten,” because in the dignity of the Godhead, and His generation from the Father, He has no brother. But we call Him the Son of God, not of ourselves, but because the Father Himself named Christ⁵ His Son⁶: and a true name is that which is set by fathers upon their children⁷.

3. Our Lord Jesus Christ erewhile became Man, but by the many He was unknown. Wishing, therefore, to teach that which was not known, He called together His disciples, and asked them, *Whom do men say that I, the Son of Man, am*⁸? —not from vain-glory, but wishing to shew them the truth, lest dwelling with God, the Only-begotten of God⁹, they should think lightly of Him as if He were some mere man. And when they answered that some said Elias, and some Jeremias, He said to them, They may be excused for not knowing, but ye, My Apostles, who in My name cleanse lepers, and cast out devils, and raise the dead, ought not to be ignorant of Him, through whom ye do these wondrous works. And when they all became silent (for the matter was too high for man to learn), Peter, the foremost of the Apostles and chief herald¹⁰ of the Church, neither aided by cunning invention, nor persuaded by human reasoning, but enlightened in his mind from the Father, says to Him, *Thou art the Christ*, not only so, but *the Son of the living God*. And there follows a blessing upon his speech (for in truth it was above man), and as a seal upon what he had said, that it was the Father who had revealed it to him. For the Saviour says, *Blessed art thou, Simon Barjona, for flesh and blood hath not revealed it to thee, but My Father which is in heaven*¹¹. He therefore

who acknowledges our Lord Jesus Christ the Son of God, partakes of this blessedness; but he who denies the Son of God is a poor and miserable man.

4. Again, I say, on hearing of a Son, under

¹Compare x. 11, 15; xvi. 13: xxi. 1.

²ἐκ προκοπῆς. See x. 5. note 8.

³Compare x. 14, note 9.

⁴θετόν. Athanasius (*de Sententiâ Dionysii*, § 23), represents Arius as saying that the Word “is not by nature (κατὰ φύσιν) and in truth Son of God, but is called Son, He too, by adoption (κατὰ θέσιν), as a creature.” Again (*c. Arian. Orat.* iii. 19), he says, “This is the true God and the Life eternal, and we are made sons through Him by adoption and grace (θέσει καὶ χάριτι).” Cf. vii. 10, and § 4, below.

⁵The mss. all read αὐτὸν Χριστόν which might mean “Christ and no other.” But Χριστόν is probably a gloss introduced from the margin.

⁶Compare the passages in which Cyril quotes [Ps. ii. 7](#), as Cat. vii. 2; x. 2; xi. 5; xii. 18.

⁷“It was one of the especial rights of a father to choose the names for his children, and to alter them if he pleased” (*Dict. Greek and Roman Antiq.* “Nomen. 1 Greek.”) The right to the name given by the father is the subject of one of the Private Orations of Demosthenes (Πρὸς Βοιωτὸν περὶ τοῦ ὀνόματος).

⁸[Matt. xiii. 16](#).

⁹Compare iv. 7: “God of God begotten;” xiii. 3 and 13: “God the Son of God.” Here however, the mss. vary, and the reading of Cod. Coisl. Υἱὸ Θεοῦ μονογενεῖ is approved by the Benedictine Editor, though not adopted. The confusion of Υἱὸ and Θεὸ is like that in [John i. 18](#).

¹⁰ὁ πρωτοστάτης τῶν Ἀποστόλων καὶ τῆς Ἐκκλησίας κορυφαῖος κήρυξ. Cf. ii. 19.

¹¹[Matt. xvi. 17](#).

65

stand it not merely in an improper sense, but as a Son in truth, a Son by nature, without beginning¹; not as having come out of bondage into a higher state of adoption², but a Son eternally begotten by an inscrutable and incomprehensible generation. And in like manner on hearing of the First-born³, think not that this is after the manner of men; for the first-born among men have other brothers also. And it is somewhere written, *Israel is My son, My first-born*⁴. But Israel is, as Reuben was, a first-born son rejected: for Reuben went up to his father's couch; and Israel cast his Father's Son out of the vineyard, and crucified Him.

To others also the Scripture says, *Ye are the sons of the Lord your God*⁵: and in another place, *I have said, Ye are gods, and ye are all sons of the Most High*⁶. *I have said*, not, “I have begotten.” They, when God so *said*, received the sonship, which before they had not: but He was not begotten to be other than He was before; but was begotten from the beginning Son of the Father, being above all beginning and all ages, Son of the Father, in all things like⁷ to Him who begat Him, eternal of a Father eternal, Life of Life begotten, and Light of Light, and Truth of Truth, and Wisdom of the Wise, and King of King, and God of God, and Power of Power⁸.

5. If then thou hear the Gospel saying, *The book of the generation of Jesus Christ, the Son of David, the Son of Abraham*⁹, understand “according to the flesh.” For He is the Son of David *at the end of the ages*¹⁰, but the Son

of God BEFORE ALL AGES, without beginning¹¹. The one, which before He had not, He received; but the other, which He hath, He hath eternally as begotten of the Father. Two fathers He hath: one, David, according to the flesh, and one, God, His Father in a Divine manner¹². As the Son of David, He is subject to time, and to handling, and to genealogical descent: but as Son according to the Godhead¹³, He is subject neither to time nor to place, nor to genealogical descent: for *His generation who shall declare*¹⁴? *God is a Spirit*¹⁵; He who is a Spirit hath spiritually begotten, as being incorporeal, an inscrutable and incomprehensible generation. The Son Himself says of the Father, *The Lord said unto Me, Thou art My Son, to-day have I begotten Thee*¹⁶. Now this *to-day* is not recent, but eternal: a timeless to-day, before all ages. *From the womb, before the morning star, have I begotten Thee*¹⁷.

6. Believe thou therefore on JESUS CHRIST, SON of the living GOD, and a Son ONLY-BEGOTTEN, according to the Gospel which

¹Athanasius (*de Synodis*, § 15) quotes a passage from the *Thalia* of Arius, in which he says: "We praise Him as without beginning, because of Him who has a beginning: and adore Him as eternal, because of Him who in time has come to be. He who is without beginning made the Son a beginning of things created."

It is important, therefore, to notice the sense in which Cyril here calls the Son ἄναρχος. The word has two meanings, which should be clearly distinguished, (i) *unoriginate*, (ii) *without beginning in time*. The former referring to origin, or cause, can properly be applied to the One true God, or to God the Father only, as it is used by Clement of Alexandria (*Protrept.* cap. v. § 65: τὸν πάντων ποιητὴν...ἀγνοοῦντες, τὸν ἀναρχὸν Θεόν. [*Strom.* IV. cap. xxv. § 164: ὁ Θεὸς δὲ ἀναρχὸς ἀρχὴ τῶν ὅλων παντελεῖς ἀρχῆς ποιητικός]. [*Stromat.* V. cap. xiv. § 142: ἐξ ἀρχῆς ἀνάρχου]. Methodius (*ob.* 312 A.D. *circ.*) in a fragment (*On things created*, § 8, English Trans. Clark's Ante-Nic. Libr.) comments thus on [John i. 1-3](#): "And so after *the peculiar unbeginning beginning*, who is the Father, He (the Word) is the beginning of other things, 'by whom all things are made.'"

In this sense Cyril has said (iv. 4) that God alone is "unbegotten, unoriginate:" and in xi. 20 he explains this more fully,—“Suffer none to speak of a beginning of the Son in time (χρόνουκὴν ἀρχήν), but as a timeless beginning acknowledge the Father. For the Father is the beginning of the Son, timeless, incomprehensible, without beginning.” From a confusion of the two meanings the word came to be improperly applied in the sense of “unoriginate” to the Son, and to the Spirit; and this improper usage is condemned in the 49th *Apostolic Canon*, which Hefele regards as amongst the most ancient Canons, and taken from the *Apostolic Constitutions*, vi. 11: “If any Bishop or Presbyter shall baptize not according to our Lord’s ordinance into the Father, and Son, and Spirit, but into *three Unoriginates*, or three Sons, or three Paracletes let him be deposed.” (ii.) Athanasius frequently calls the Son ἄναρχος in the sense of ‘timeless,’ as being the co-eternal brightness (ἀπαύγασμα) of the Eternal Light: see *de Sent. Dionys.* §§ 15, 16, 22; “God is the Eternal Light, which never either began or shall cease: accordingly the Brightness is ever before Him, and co-exists with Him, without beginning and ever-begotten (ἀναρχὸν καὶ ἀειγενές).”

²εἰς προκοπὴν υἰοθεσίας. Cf. § 2, note 4.

³Πρωτότοκον. The word occurs in [Heb. i. 6](#), which had been read in the Lesson before this Lecture. The exact dogmatic sense of the word is carefully explained by Athanasius (*c. Arian.* Or. ii. 62): “The same cannot be both Only-begotten and Firstborn, except in different relations;—that is, Only-begotten, because of His generation from the father, as has been said; and First-born, because of His condescension to the creation, and His making the many His brethren.” See Mr. Robertson’s discussion of the word πρωτότοκος (*Athan.* p. 344, in this series), and Bp. Bull (*Def. Fid. Nic.* iii. 5–8).

⁴[Ex. iv. 22.](#)

⁵[Deut. xiv. 1.](#)

⁶[Ps. lxxii. 6.](#)

⁷ἐν πᾶσιν ὅμοιος. See the note on iv. 7. That the phrase was not equivalent to ὁμοούσιος, and did not adequately express the relation of the Son to the Father is clearly shewn by Athanasius (*de Synodis*, cap. iii. § 53).

⁸The additions which the Benedictine Editor has here made to the earlier text, as represented by Milles, may be conveniently shewn in brackets. ἀλλὰ Υἱὸς [τοῦ Πατρὸς]* ἐξ ἀρχῆς ἐγεννήθη, [ὑπεράνω πάσης ἀρχῆς καὶ αἰώνων τυγχάνων]*, Υἱὸς τοῦ Πατρὸς [ἐν πᾶσιν]† ὅμοιος τῷ γεγεννηκότι· [ἄϊδιος ἐξ ἀϊδίου Πατρὸς,]* ζωὴ ἐκ ζωῆς γεγεννημένος. ...καὶ Θεὸς ἐκ Θεοῦ, [καὶ δύναμις ἐκ δυνάμεως]‡.

* Codd. Coisl. Ottob. Mon. 2. † Coisl. Ottob. Roe, Casaub. Mon. 1, 2.

‡ Coisl. Ottob. Mon. 1, 2.

⁹[Matt. i. 1.](#)

¹⁰[Heb. ix. 26.](#)

¹¹See § 4, note 3.

¹²Θεϊκῶς.

¹³τὸ μὲν κατὰ τὸν Δαβίδ....τὸ δὲ κατὰ τὴν Θεότητα.

¹⁴[Isa. liii. 8.](#) Compare § 7, below.

¹⁵[John iv. 24.](#)

¹⁶[Ps. ii. 7.](#)

¹⁷[Ps. cx. 3.](#) "From the womb of the morning thou hast the dew of thy youth" (R.V.). There is a remarkable various reading in Codd. Roe, Casaub. Τό εἶ σύ, ἄχρονον καὶ ἀϊδιον· τὸ δὲ σήμερον πρόσφατον, ἀλλ' οὐκ ἀϊδιον, οἰκειομένου τοῦ Πατρὸς καὶ τὴν κάτω γέννησιν. Καὶ πάλιν λέγει· Ἐκ γαστρὸς πρὸ ἑωσφόρου γεγέννηκά σε· τοῦτο μόνον τῆς Θεότητος· Πίστευσον, κ.τ.λ. The words "*Thou art My Son*," are thus referred to the eternal generation, and "*This day*" to the birth in time: whereas in the received text, followed in our translation, σήμερον refers to the timeless and eternal generation of the Son. The former interpretation of [Ps. ii. 7](#) is found in many Fathers, as for example in Tertullian (*adv. Prax.* vii. xi.), and Methodius (*Conviv. Virg.* VIII. cap. ix.): "He says 'Thou art,' and not 'Thou hast become,' shewing that He had not recently attained to the position of Son....But the expression, 'This day have I begotten Thee,' signifies that He willed that existing already before the ages in heaven He should also be begotten for the world, that is that He who was before unknown should be made known.' The same interpretation was held by many Fathers, some referring σήμερον to the Nativity, as Cyprian (*adv. Judæos Testim.* ii. 8), others to the Baptism (Justin M. *Dialog.* cap. lxxxviii.; Tertullian. *adv. Marcion.* iv. 22). Athanasius (*c. Arian.* iv. § 27), has a long discussion on the question whether [Ps. cx. 3](#), ἐκ γαστρὸς πρὸ ἑωσφόρου γεγέννηκά σε, refers to the eternal generation of the Son, or to His Nativity.

says, *For God so loved the world, that He gave His Only-begotten Son, that whosoever believeth on Him should not perish, but have everlasting life*¹. And again, *He that believeth on the Son is not judged, but hath passed out of death into life*². *But he that believeth not the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God abideth on him*³. And John testified concerning Him, saying, *And we beheld His glory, glory as of the only-begotten from the father,—full of grace and truth*⁴: at whom the devils trembled and said, *Ah! what have we to do with Thee, Jesus, Thou Son of the living God*⁵.

7. He is then the Son of God by nature and not by adoption⁶, begotten of the Father. *And he that loveth Him that*

*begat, loveth Him also that is begotten of Him*⁷; but he that despiseth Him that is begotten casts back the insult upon Him who begat. And whenever thou hear of God begetting, sink not down in thought to bodily things, nor think of a corruptible generation, lest thou be guilty of impiety. *God is a Spirit*⁸, His generation is spiritual: for bodies beget bodies, and for the generation of bodies time needs must intervene; but time intervenes not in the generation of the Son from the Father. And in our case what is begotten is begotten imperfect: but the Son of God was begotten perfect; for what He is now, that is He also from the beginning⁹, begotten without beginning. We are begotten so as to pass from infantile ignorance to a state of reason: thy generation, O man, is imperfect, for thy growth is progressive. But think not that it is thus in His case, nor impute infirmity to Him who hath begotten. For if that which He begot was imperfect, and acquired its perfection in time, thou art imputing infirmity to Him who hath begotten; if so be, the Father did not bestow from the beginning that which, as thou sayest, time bestowed afterwards¹⁰.

8. Think not therefore that this generation is human, nor as Abraham begat Isaac. For in begetting Isaac, Abraham begat not what he would, but what another granted. But in God the Father's begetting there is neither ignorance nor intermediate deliberation¹¹. For to say that He knew not what He was begetting is the greatest impiety; and it is no less impious to say, that after deliberation in time He then became a Father. For God was not previously without a Son, and afterwards in time became a Father; but hath the Son eternally, having begotten Him not as men beget men, but as Himself only knoweth, who begat Him before all ages VERY GOD.

9. For the Father being Very God begat the Son like unto Himself, Very God¹²; not as teachers beget disciples, not as Paul says to some, *For in Christ Jesus I begat you through the Gospel*¹³. For in this case he who was not a son by nature became a son by discipleship, but in the former case He was a Son by nature, a true Son. Not as ye, who are to be illuminated, are now becoming sons of God: for ye also become sons, but by adoption of grace, as it is written, *But as many as received Him, to them gave He the right to become children of God, even to them that believe on His name: which were begotten not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God*¹⁴. And we indeed are begotten of water and of the Spirit, but not thus was Christ begotten of the Father. For at the time of His Baptism addressing Him, and saying, *This is My Son*¹⁵, He did not say, "This has now become My Son," but, *This is My Son*; that He might make manifest, that even before the operation of Baptism He was a Son.

10. The Father begat the Son, not as among men mind begets word. For the mind is substantially existent in us; but the word when spoken is dispersed into the air and comes to an end¹⁶. But we know Christ to have been begotten not as a word pronounced¹⁷, but as a Word substantially existing¹⁸ and living; not spoken by the lips, and dispersed, but begotten of the Father eternally and ineffably, in substance¹⁹. For, *In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God*²⁰, sitting at God's right

¹[John iii. 16.](#)

²[John 3.18; 5.24.](#)

³[John 3.36.](#)

⁴[John 1.14.](#)

⁵[Luke iv. 34.](#)

⁶φύσει καὶ οὐ θέσει. Cf. § 2, note 4.

⁷[1 John v. 1.](#)

⁸[John iv. 24.](#) Cf. § 5.

⁹γεγεννημένος ἀνάρχως. Cf. § 5, note 4.

¹⁰ὁ χρόνος. Bened. c. Codd. Roe, Casaub. Coisl. ὁ χρόνος Ottob. Mon. 1, 2. A. With the latter reading, the meaning will be—"if He did not bestow from the beginning, as thou sayest, what He bestowed in after times." Cyril does not here address his auditor, but an imaginary opponent,—“O man.”

Compare Athan. (*de Synodis*, § 26).

¹¹The Arians appear to have made use of a dilemma: If God begat with will and purpose, these preceded the begetting, and so ἦν ποτε ὅτε οὐκ ἦν, there was a time when the Son was not: if without will and purpose, then He begat in ignorance and of necessity. The answer is fully given by Athanasius (c. *Arian*. iii. 58–67, pp. 425–431 in this Series).

¹²Athanasius (*ad Episcopos Ægypti*, § 13), referring to [1 John v. 20](#), *This is the true* (ἀληθινός) *God*, writes: “But these men (the Arians), as if in contradiction to this, allege that Christ is not the true God, but that He is only called God, as are other creatures, in regard of His participation in the Divine nature.” Again (c. *Arian*. iii. 9), “He gave us to know that of the true Father He is the true Offspring (ἀληθινὸν γέννημα).”

¹³[1 Cor. iv. 15.](#)

¹⁴[John i. 12, 13.](#)

¹⁵[Matt. iii. 17.](#)

¹⁶Compare Athanasius (*de Sententiâ Dionysii*, § 23): “the mind creates the word, being manifested in it, and the word shews the mind, having originated therein.” Tertullian (*adv. Prax.* vii.): “You will say what is a word but a voice and sound of the mouth, and (as the Grammarians teach) air when struck against, intelligible to the ear, but for the rest a sort of void, empty, and incorporeal thing.” Cf. Athan. (*de Synodis*, § 12): ἀνυπόστατον.

¹⁷προφορικόν. See Cat. iv. 8, note 9.

¹⁸ἐνυπόστατον. *ibid.* So the Spirit is described in Cat. xvii. 5 “not uttered or breathed by the mouth and lips of the Father and the Son, nor dispersed into the air, but personally subsisting (ἐνυπόστατον).”

¹⁹ἐν ὑποστάσει.

²⁰[John i. 1.](#)

hand;—the Word understanding the Father’s will, and creating all things at His bidding: the Word, which came down and went up; for the word of utterance when spoken comes not down, nor goes up; the Word speaking and saying, *The things which I have seen with My Father, these I speak*¹: the Word possessed of power, and reigning over all things: for *the Father hath committed all things unto the Son*².

11. The Father then begat Him not in such wise as any man could understand, but as Himself only knoweth. For we profess not to tell in what manner He begat Him, but we insist that it was not in this manner. And not we only are ignorant of the generation of the Son from the Father, but so is every created nature. *Speak to the earth, if perchance it may teach thee*³: and though thou inquire of all things which are upon the earth, they shall not be able to tell thee. For the earth cannot tell the substance of Him who is its own potter and fashioner. Nor is the earth alone ignorant, but the sun also⁴: for the sun was created on the fourth day, without knowing what had been made in the three days before him; and he who knows not the things made in the three days before him, cannot tell forth the Maker Himself. Heaven will not declare this: for at the Father’s bidding *the heaven also was like smoke established*⁵ by Christ. Nor shall *the heaven of heavens* declare this, *nor the waters which are above the heavens*⁶. Why then art thou cast down, O man, at being ignorant of that which even the heavens know not? Nay, not only are the heavens ignorant of this generation, but also every angelic nature. For if any one should ascend, were it possible, into the first heaven, and perceiving the ranks of the Angels there should approach and

ask them how God begat His own Son, they would say perhaps, “We have above us beings greater and higher; ask them.” Go up to the second heaven and the third; attain, if thou canst, to Thrones, and Dominions, and Principalities, and Powers: and even if any one should reach them, which is impossible, they also would decline the explanation, for they know it not.

12. For my part, I have ever wondered at the curiosity of the bold men, who by their imagined reverence fall into impiety. For though they know nothing of Thrones, and Dominions, and Principalities, and Powers, the workmanship of Christ, they attempt to scrutinise their Creator Himself. Tell me first, O most daring man, wherein does Throne differ from Dominion, and then scrutinise what pertains to Christ. Tell me what is a Principality, and what a Power, and what a Virtue, and what an Angel: and then search out their Creator, *for all things were made by Him*⁷. But thou wilt not, or thou canst not ask Thrones or Dominions. What else is there that *knoweth the deep things of God*⁸, save only the Holy Ghost, who spake the Divine Scriptures? But not even the Holy Ghost Himself has spoken in the Scriptures concerning the generation of the Son from the Father. Why then dost thou busy thyself about things which not even the Holy Ghost has written in the Scriptures? Thou that knowest not the things which are written, busiest thou thyself about the things which are not written? There are many questions in the Divine Scriptures; what is written we comprehend not, why do we busy ourselves about what is not written? It is sufficient for us to know that God hath begotten One Only Son.

13. Be not ashamed to confess thine ignorance, since thou sharest ignorance with Angels. Only He who begat knoweth Him who was begotten, and He who is begotten of Him knoweth Him who begat. He who begat knoweth what He begat: and the Scriptures also testify that He who was begotten is God⁹. *For as the Father hath life in Himself, so also hath He given to the Son to have life in Himself*¹⁰; and, *that all men should honour the Son, even as they honour the Father*¹¹; and, *as the Father quickeneth whom He will, even so the Son quickeneth whom He will*¹². Neither He who begat suffered any loss, nor is anything lacking to Him who was begotten (I know that I have said these things many times, but it is for your safety that they are said so often): neither has He who begat, a Father, nor He who was begotten, a brother. Neither was He who begat changed into the Son¹³, nor did He who was begotten become the Father¹⁴. Of One Only Father there is One

¹[John viii. 38.](#)

²[Matt. xi. 27;](#) [John v. 22.](#)

³[Job xii. 8.](#)

⁴In saying that the earth, the sun, and the heavens know not their Maker, Cyril is simply using figurative language like that of the passage of Job just quoted. There is no reason to suppose that he accepted Origen's theory (*de Principiis*, II. cap. 7), that the heavenly bodies are living and rational beings, capable of sin.

⁵[Isa. li. 6](#): *the heavens shall vanish away like smoke.*

⁶[Ps. cxlviii. 4.](#)

⁷[John i. 3.](#)

⁸[1 Cor. ii. 10, 11.](#)

⁹I have followed the reading of Codd. Coisl. Roe, Casaub. Mon. A., which is approved though not adopted by the Benedictine Editor. The common text is manifestly interpolated: “And the Holy Spirit of God testifies in the Scriptures, that He who was begotten without beginning is God. *For what man knoweth, &c.*” This insertion of [1 Cor. ii. 11](#) interrupts the argument, and is a useless repetition of the allusion to the same passage in § 12.

¹⁰[John v. 26.](#)

¹¹[John 5.23.](#)

¹²[John 5.21](#).

¹³See iv. 8, note 8, on the Sabellian doctrine, and Athanas. (*de Synodis*, § 16, note 10 in this series).

¹⁴The doctrine of Sabellius might be expressed in two forms, either the Father became the Son, or the Son became the Father. Both forms are here denied. The Jerusalem Editor thinks there is an allusion to the Arian argument mentioned by Athanasius (*c. Arian. Or. I. cap. vi. 22*): "If the Son is the Father's offspring and Image, and is like in all things to the Father, then it necessarily holds that as He is begotten so He begets, and He too becomes father of a son." But the close connexion of the two clauses is in favour of the reference to the Sabellian *υιοπατορία*.

68

Only-begotten Son: neither two Unbegotten¹, nor two Only-begotten; but One Father, Unbegotten (for He is Unbegotten who hath no father); and One Son, eternally begotten of the Father; begotten not in time, but before all ages; not increased by advancement, but begotten that which He now is.

14. We believe then IN THE ONLY-BEGOTTEN SON OF GOD, WHO WAS BEGOTTEN OF THE FATHER VERY GOD. For the True God begetteth not a false god, as we have said, nor did He deliberate and afterwards beget²; but He begat eternally, and much more swiftly than our words or thoughts: for we speaking in time, consume time; but in the case of the Divine Power, the generation is timeless. And as I have often said, He did not bring forth the Son from non-existence into being, nor take the non-existent into sonship³: but the Father, being Eternal, eternally and ineffably begat One Only Son, who has no brother. Nor are there two first principles; but the Father is *the head of the Son*⁴; the beginning is One. For the Father begot the Son VERY GOD, called Emmanuel; and Emmanuel *being interpreted is, God with us*⁵.

15. And wouldest thou know that He who was begotten of the Father, and afterwards became man, is God? Hear the Prophet saying, *This is our God, none other shall be accounted of in comparison with Him. He hath found out every way of knowledge, and given it to Jacob His servant, and to Israel His beloved. Afterwards He was seen on earth, and conversed among men*⁶. Seest thou herein God become man, after the giving of the law by Moses? Hear also a second testimony to Christ's Deity, that which has just now been read, *Thy throne, O God, is for ever and ever*⁷. For lest, because of His presence here in the flesh, He should be thought to have been advanced after this to the Godhead, the Scripture says plainly, *Therefore God, even Thy God, hath anointed Thee with the oil of gladness above Thy fellows*⁸. Seest thou Christ as God anointed by God the Father?

16. Wouldest thou receive yet a third testimony to Christ's Godhead? Hear Esaias saying, *Egypt hath laboured, and the merchandise of Ethiopia: and soon after, In Thee shall they make supplication, because God is in Thee, and there is no God save Thee. For Thou art God, and we knew it not, the God of Israel, the Saviour*⁹. Thou seest that the Son is God, having in Himself God the Father: saying almost the very same which He has said in the Gospels: *The Father is in Me, and I am in the Father*¹⁰. He says not, I am the Father, but *the Father is in Me, and I am in the Father*. And again He said not, I and the Father am¹¹ one, but, *I and the Father am one*, that we should neither separate them, nor make a confusion of Son-Father¹². One they are because of the dignity pertaining to the Godhead, since God begat God. One in respect of their kingdom; for the Father reigns not over these, and the Son over those, lifting Himself up against His Father like Absalom: but the kingdom of the Father is likewise the kingdom of the Son. One they are, because there is no discord nor division between them: for what things the Father willeth, the Son willeth the same. One, because the creative works of Christ are no other than the Father's; for the creation of all things is one, the Father having made them through the Son: *For He spake, and they were made; He commanded, and they were created*, saith the Psalmist¹³. For He who speaks, speaks to one who hears: and He who commands, gives His commandment to one who is present with Him.

17. The Son then is VERY GOD, having the Father in Himself, not changed into the Father; for the Father was not made man, but the Son. For let the truth be freely spoken¹⁴. The Father suffered not for us, but the Father sent Him who suffered. Neither let us say, There was a time when the Son was not; nor let us admit a Son who is the Father¹⁵: but let us walk in the king's highway; let us turn aside neither on the left hand nor on the right. Neither from thinking to honour the Son, let us call Him the Father; nor from

¹ἀγέννητοι. The context shews that this, not ἀγέννητοι, is here the right form. Athanasius seems to have used ἀγέννητος in both senses “Un-begotten,” as here, and “unoriginate.” Thus (c. *Arian. Or.* i. cap. ix. § 30) he says of the Arians: “Their further question ‘whether the Unoriginate be one or two,’ shews how false are their views.” Compare Bp. Lightfoot’s *Excursus* on Ignatius, *Ephes.* § 7, and Mr. Robertson’s notes on Athanasius in this Series.

²See above, § 8, note 3.

³Athan. (c. *Arian.* I. ix. 31) “speaking against the Lord, ‘He is of nothing,’ and ‘He was not before His generation.’”

⁴[1 Cor. xi. 3.](#)

⁵[Matt. i. 23.](#)

⁶[Baruch iii. 35-37.](#) The last verse was understood by Cyril, as by many of the Greek and Latin Fathers, to be a prophecy of the Incarnation: but in reality it refers to “knowledge” (ἐπιστήμη, v. 36), and should be translated “she was seen upon earth.” See notes on the passage in the *Speaker’s Commentary*.

⁷[Heb. i. 8.](#)

⁸[Heb. 1.9.](#) See x. 14, note 9.

⁹[Isa. xlv. 14, 15:](#) “They shall make supplication unto thee, saying, surely God is in thee.” The words are addressed to Jerusalem as the city of God. Cyril applies them to the Son, misled by the Septuagint.

¹⁰[John xiv. 11.](#)

¹¹Athanasius (c. *Arian. Or.* iv. § 9), arguing for the ὁμοούσιον says: “These are two, because there is Father and Son, that is the Word; and one, because one God. For if this is not so, He would have said, I am the Father, or, I and the Father am.”

¹²See iv. 8, notes 7 and 8.

¹³[Psa. xxxiii. 9; cxlviii. 5.](#) S. Cyril explains the creative “Fiat” in [Gen. i.](#) as addressed by the Father to the Son.

¹⁴We learn from Socrates (*Eccl. Hist.* i. 24), that after the Nicene Council “those who objected to the word ὁμοούσιος conceived that those who approved it favoured the opinion of Sabellius.” Marcellus of Ancyra, who was deposed on a charge of Sabellianism, and who did not in fact make clear the distinct personality of the Son, had been warmly supported by the friends of Athanasius. Cyril apparently fears to incur their censure, if he too strongly condemned the Sabellian view.

¹⁵Cyril here rejects both the opposite errors, Arianism, “There was a time when the Son was not,” and Sabellianism, “a Son who is the Father.”

thinking to honour the Father, imagine the Son to be some one of the creatures. But let One Father be worshipped through One Son, and let not their worship be separated. Let One Son be proclaimed, sitting at the right hand of the Father before all ages: sharing His throne not by advancement in time after His Passion, but by eternal possession.

18. *He who hath seen the Son, hath seen the Father*¹: for in all things the Son is like to Him who begat Him²; begotten Life of Life and Light of Light, Power of Power, God of God; and the characteristics of the Godhead are unchangeable³ in the Son; and he who is counted worthy to behold Godhead in the Son, attains to the fruition of the Father. This is not my word, but that of the Only-begotten: *Have I been so long time with you, and hast thou*

*not known Me, Philip? He that hath seen Me, hath seen the Father*⁴. And to be brief, let us neither separate them, nor make a confusion⁵: neither say thou ever that the Son is foreign to the Father, nor admit those who say that the Father is at one time Father, and at another Son: for these are strange and impious statements, and not the doctrines of the Church. But the Father having begotten the Son, remained the Father and is not changed. He begat Wisdom, yet lost not wisdom Himself; and begat Power, yet became not weak: He begat God, but lost not His own Godhead: and neither did He lose anything Himself by diminution or change; nor has He who was begotten any thing wanting. Perfect is He who begat, Perfect that which was begotten: God was He who begat, God He who was begotten; God of all Himself, yet entitling the Father His own God. For He is not ashamed to say, *I ascend unto My Father and your Father, and to My God and your God*⁶.

19. But lest thou shouldest think that He is in a like sense Father of the Son and of the creatures, Christ drew a distinction in what follows. For He said not, “I ascend to our Father,” lest the creatures should be made fellows of the Only-begotten; but He said, *My Father and your Father*, in one way Mine, by nature; in another yours, by adoption. And again, *to my God and your God*, in one way Mine, as His true and Only-begotten Son, and in another way yours, as His workmanship⁷. The Son of God then is VERY GOD, ineffably begotten before all ages (for I say the same things often to you, that it may be graven upon your mind). This also believe, that God has a Son: but about the manner be not curious, for by searching thou wilt not find. Exalt not thyself, lest thou fall: *think upon those things only which have been commanded thee*⁸. Tell me first what He is who begat, and then learn that which He begat; but if thou canst not conceive the nature of Him who hath begotten, search not curiously into the manner of that which is begotten.

20. For godliness it sufficeth thee to know, as we have said, that God hath One Only Son, One naturally begotten; who began not His being when He was born in Bethlehem, but BEFORE ALL AGES. For hear the Prophet Micah saying, *And thou, Bethlehem, house of Ephrata, art little to be among the thousands of Judah. Out of thee shall come forth unto Me a Ruler, who shall feed My people Israel: and His goings forth are from the beginning, from days of eternity*⁹. Think not then of Him who is now come forth out of Bethlehem¹⁰, but worship Him who was eternally begotten of the Father. Suffer none to speak of a beginning of the Son in time, but as a timeless Beginning acknowledge the Father. For the Father is the Beginning of the Son, timeless, incomprehensible, without beginning¹¹. The fountain of the river of righteousness, even of the Only-begotten, is the Father, who begat Him as Himself only knoweth. And wouldest thou know that our Lord Jesus Christ is King Eternal? Hear Him again saying, *Your father Abraham rejoiced to see My day, and he saw it, and was glad*¹². And then, when the Jews received this hardly, He says what to them was still harder, *Before Abraham was, I am*¹³. And again He saith to the Father, *And now, Father, glorify Thou Me with Thine own self, with the glory which I had with Thee before the world was*¹⁴. He says plainly, “before the world was, I had the glory which is with Thee.” And again when

¹[John xiv. 9.](#)

²See above, § 4, note 9.

³ἀπαράλλακτοι. The word was used by the Orthodox Bishops at Nicæa, who said that “the Word must be described as the True power and Image of the Father, in all things like the Father and Himself incapable of change.” See the notes of Dr. Newman and Mr. Robertson on Athanasius (*de Decretis*, § 20).

⁴[John xiv. 9.](#)

⁵See iv. 8, note 8.

⁶[John xx. 17.](#)

⁷Compare Cat. vii. 7. The Jerusalem Editor observes that the expression “My God” is understood by the Fathers generally as spoken by Christ in reference to His human nature, but Cyril applies this, as well as the other expression “My Father,” to the Divine nature. So Hilary (*de Trinit.* iv. 53): “idcirco Deus ejus est, quia ex eo natus in Deum est.” Compare Epiphanius (*Hær.* lxi. 55).

⁸[Ecclesiasticus 3.22.](#)

⁹[Micah v. 2](#); on the various readings ὁ ἁγιοστός εἶ, μὴ ὁλ, εἶ οὐκ ὁλ. εἶ, found in the MSS. of Cyril, see the Commentaries on the quotation of the passage in [Matt. ii. 6](#).

¹⁰Codd. Roe, Casaub. have a different reading—"Think not then of His having now been born in Bethlehem, and (nor) suppose Him as the Son of Man to be altogether recent, but worship, &c." This is rightly regarded by the Benedictine and other Editors as an interpolation intended to avoid the apparent tendency of Cyril's language in the received text to separate the Virgin's Son from the Eternal Word. Had Cyril so written after the Nestorian controversy arose, he would have appeared to favour the Nestorian formula that "Mary did not give birth to the Deity." Compare Swainson (*Nicene Creed*, Ch. ix. § 7.) What Cyril really means is that we are not to think of Christ simply as man, but to worship Him as God.

¹¹Compare § 4, note 3.

¹²[John viii. 56](#).

¹³[John 8.58](#).

¹⁴[John 17.5](#).

70

He says, *For Thou lovedst Me before the foundation of the world*¹, He plainly declares, "The glory which I have with thee is from eternity."

21. We believe then IN ONE LORD JESUS CHRIST, THE ONLY-BEGOTTEN SON OF GOD, BEGOTTEN OF HIS FATHER VERY GOD BEFORE ALL WORLDS, BY WHOM ALL THINGS WERE MADE. For *whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers, all things were made through Him*², and of things created none is exempted from His authority. Silenced be every heresy which brings in different creators and makers of the world; silenced the tongue which blasphemes the Christ the Son of God; let them be silenced who say that the sun is the Christ, for He is the sun's Creator, not the sun which we see³. Silenced be they who say that the world is the workmanship of Angels⁴, who wish to steal away the dignity of the Only-begotten. For whether visible or invisible, whether thrones or dominions, or anything that is named, all things were made by Christ. He reigns over the things which have been made by Him, not having seized another's spoils, but reigning over His own workmanship, even as the Evangelist John has said, *All things were made by Him, and without Him was not anything made*⁵. All things were made by Him, the Father working by the Son.

22. I wish to give also a certain illustration of what I am saying, but I know that it is feeble; for of things visible what can be an exact illustration of the Divine Power? But nevertheless as feeble be it spoken by the feeble to the feeble. For just as any king, whose son was a king, if he wished to form a city, might suggest to his son, his partner in the kingdom, the form of the city, and he having received the pattern, brings the design to completion; so, when the Father wished to form all things, the Son created all things at the Father's bidding, that the act of bidding might secure to the Father His absolute authority⁶, and yet the Son in turn might have authority over His own workmanship, and neither the Father be separated from the lordship over His own works, nor the Son rule over things created by others, but by Himself. For, as I have said, Angels did not create the world, but the Only-begotten Son, begotten, as I have said, before all ages, BY WHOM ALL THINGS WERE MADE, nothing having been excepted from His creation. And let this suffice to have been spoken by us so far, by the grace of Christ.

23. But let us now recur to our profession of the Faith, and so for the present finish our discourse. Christ made all things, whether thou speak of Angels, or Archangels, of Dominions, or Thrones. Not that the Father wanted strength to create the works Himself, but because He willed that the Son should reign over His own workmanship, God Himself giving Him the design of the things to be made. For honouring His own Father the Only-begotten saith, *The Son can do nothing of Himself, but what He seeth the Father do; for what things soever He doeth, these also doeth the Son likewise*⁷. And again, *My Father worketh hitherto, and I work*⁸, there being no opposition in those who work. *For all Mine are Thine, and Thine are Mine*, saith the Lord in the Gospels⁹. And this we may certainly know from the Old and New Testaments. For He who said, *Let us make man in our image and after our likeness*¹⁰, was certainly speaking to some one present. But clearest of all are the Psalmist's words, *He spake and they were made; He commanded, and they were created*¹¹, as if the Father commanded and spake, and the

Son made all things at the Father's bidding. And this Job said mystically, *Which alone spread out the heaven, and walketh upon the sea as on firm ground*¹²; signifying to those who understand that He who when present here walked upon the sea is also He who aforetime made the heavens. And again the Lord saith, *Or didst Thou take earth, and fashion clay into a living being*¹³? then afterwards, *Are the gates of death opened to Thee through fear, and did the door-keepers of hell shudder at sight of Thee*¹⁴? thus signifying that He who through loving-kindness descended into hell, also in the beginning made man out of clay.

24. Christ then is the Only-begotten Son of God, and Maker of the world. For *He was in the world, and the world was made by Him*; and *He came unto His own*, as the Gospel teaches us¹⁵. And not only of the things which are seen, but also of the things which are not seen, is Christ the Maker at the Father's bidding. For *in Him*, according to the Apostle, *were all things created that are in the heavens, and that are upon the earth, things visible and invisible, whether thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers; all things have been created by Him and for Him; and He is before all, and*

¹[John xvii. 24.](#)

²[Col. i. 16.](#)

³Compare Cat. vi. 13, and xv. 3: "Here let converts from the Manichees gain instruction, and no longer make those lights their gods; nor impiously think that this sun which shall be darkened is Christ."

⁴The creation of the world was ascribed to Angels by the Gnostics generally, e.g. by Simon Magus (Irenæus, *adv. Hæres.* I. xxiii. § 2), Menander (*ibid.* § 5), Saturninus (*ibid.* xxiv. 1), Basilides (*ibid.* § 3), Carpocrates (*ibid.* xxv. 1).

⁵[John i. 3.](#)

⁶On the doctrine of Creation by the Son as held by Cyril, see the reference to the Introduction in the Index, *Creation*.

⁷[John v. 19.](#)

⁸[John 5.17.](#)

⁹[John 17.10.](#)

¹⁰[Gen. i. 26.](#)

¹¹[Ps. cxlviii. 5.](#)

¹²[Job ix. 8.](#)

¹³[Job 38.14.](#)

¹⁴[Job 38.17.](#)

¹⁵[John i. 10, 11.](#)

*in Him all things consist*¹. Even if thou speak of the worlds, of these also Jesus Christ is the Maker by the Father's bidding. For *in these last days God spake unto us by His Son, whom He appointed heir of all things, by whom also He made the worlds*². To whom be the glory, honour, might, now and ever, and world without end. Amen.

¹[Col. i. 16, 17.](#)

²[Heb. i. 2.](#)

72

Lecture XII.

On the words Incarnate, and Made Man.

[ISAIAH VII. 10-14](#)

"And the Lord spoke again unto Ahaz, saying, Ask thee a sign, &c.." and "Behold! a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call His name Emmanuel, &c."

1. NURSLINGS of purity and disciples of chastity, raise we our hymn to the Virgin-born God¹ with lips full of purity. Deemed² worthy to partake of the flesh of the Spiritual Lamb³, let us take the head together with the feet⁴, the Deity being understood as the head, and the Manhood taken as the feet. Hearers of the Holy Gospels, let us listen to John the Divine⁵. For he who said, *In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God*⁶, went on to say, *and the Word was made flesh*⁷. For neither is it holy to worship the mere man, nor religious to say that He is God only without the Manhood. For if Christ is God, as indeed He is, but took not human nature upon Him, we are strangers to salvation. Let us then worship Him as God, but believe that He also was made Man. For neither is there any profit in calling Him man without Godhead nor any salvation in refusing to confess the Manhood together with the Godhead. Let us confess the presence of Him who is both King and Physician. For Jesus the King when about to become our Physician, *girded Himself with the linen* of humanity⁸, and healed that which was sick. The perfect Teacher of babes⁹ became a babe among babes, that He might give wisdom to the foolish. The Bread of heaven came down on earth¹⁰ that He might feed the hungry.

2. But the sons of the Jews by setting at nought Him that came, and looking for him who cometh in wickedness, rejected the true Messiah, and wait for the deceiver, themselves deceived; herein also the Saviour being found true, who said, *I am come in My Father's name, and ye receive Me not: but if another shall come in his own name, him ye will receive*¹¹. It is well also to put a question to the Jews. Is the Prophet Esaias, who saith that Emmanuel shall be born of a virgin, true or false¹²? For if they charge him with falsehood, no wonder: for their custom is not only to charge with falsehood, but also to stone the Prophets. But if the Prophet is true, point to the Emmanuel, and say, Whether is He who is to come, for whom ye are looking, to be born of a virgin or not? For if He is not to be born of a virgin, ye accuse the Prophet of falsehood: but if in Him that is to come ye expect this, why do ye reject that which has come to pass already?

3. Let the Jews, then, be led astray, since they so will: but let the Church of God be glorified. For we receive God the Word made Man in truth, not, as heretics say¹³, of the will of man and woman, but of THE VIRGIN AND THE HOLY GHOST¹⁴ according to the

¹This passage supplies a complete answer to the suspicion of a quasi-Nestorian tendency referred to in note 6, on xi. 20. See x. 19, note 2, on the title Θεοτόκος.

²The Present Participle (καταξιούμενοι) means that the Candidates for Baptism were already on the way to be admitted to Holy Communion. Compare Cat. i. 1, where the same Candidates are addressed as "partakers of the mysteries of Christ, as yet by calling only, but ere long by grace also."

³Aubertin remarks on this passage that “this spiritual Lamb, consisting of head and feet, can be received only by the spiritual mouth.” This explanation, however true in itself, cannot fairly be held to express fully the meaning of Cyril. See the section of the Introduction referred to in the Index, “Eucharist.”

⁴Ex. xii. 9: *the head with the feet*. The same figurative interpretation is given by Eusebius (*Eccl. Hist.* I. ii. § 1): “In Christ there is a twofold nature; and the one—in so far as He is thought of as God—resembles the head of the body, while the other may be compared with the feet,—in so far as He, for the sake of our salvation, put on human nature with the same passions as our own.”

⁵Ἰωάννη τῷ Θεολόγῳ. The title is given to Moses by Philo Judæus (*Vita Mos.* III. § 11), to Prophets by Eusebius (*Demostr. Evang.* ii. 9), to Apostles by Athanasius (*de Incarn.* § 10: τῶν αὐτοῦ τοῦ Σωτῆρος θεολόγων ἀνδρῶν), and especially to St. John, because the chief purpose of his Gospel was to set forth the Deity of Christ. See note on Revel. i. 1, in *Speaker's Commentary*, and Suicer, *Thesaurus*, Θεολόγος.

⁶John i. 1.

⁷John 1.14.

⁸John 13.4.

⁹Rom. ii. 20.

¹⁰John vi. 32, 33, 50.

¹¹John 5.43; 2 John 7.

¹²Isa. vii. 14.

¹³Carpocrates, Cerinthus, the Ebionites, &c. See Irenæus (*Hær.* I. xxv. § 1; xxvi. §§ 1, 2).

¹⁴Dr. Swainson (*Creeds*, Chap. vii. § 7), speaking of the Creed of Cyril of Jerusalem, says that “the words σαρκωθέντα καὶ ἐνανθρωπήσαντα are found in it, but no reference whatever is made to the birth from the Virgin.” The present passage, and that in Cat. iv. § 9, “begotten of the Holy Virgin and the Holy Ghost,” seems to shew that such a clause formed part of the Creed which Cyril was expounding. The genuineness of both passages is attested by all the MSS. and Dr. Swainson was mistaken in charging the Editors of the Oxford Translation with having omitted to “mention that Touttée was himself doubtful as to the words within the brackets” [ἐκ Παρθένου καὶ Πνεύματος Ἁγίου]. The brackets are added by Dr. Swainson himself, and Touttée had no doubt of the genuineness of the words: on the contrary he believed them to be part of the Creed itself. His note is as follows: “The words of the *Virgin and Holy Ghost* I have caused to be printed in larger letters as if taken from the Symbol: although they are wanting in the Title of this Lecture and in § 13, where the third Article of the Creed is referred to. But they are read in nearly all the Latin and Greek Symbols, and are referred to in Cat. iv. § 9.”

73

Gospel, MADE MAN¹, not in seeming but in truth. And that He was truly Man made of the Virgin, wait for the proper time of instruction in this Lecture, and thou shalt receive the proofs²: for the error of the heretics is manifold. And some have said that He has not been born at all of a virgin³: others that He has been born, not of a virgin, but of a wife dwelling with a husband. Others say that the Christ is not God made Man, but a man made God⁴. For they dared to say that not He—the pre-existent Word—was made Man; but a certain man was by advancement crowned.

4. But remember thou what was said yesterday concerning His Godhead. Believe that He the Only-begotten Son of God—He Himself was again begotten of a Virgin. Believe the Evangelist John when he says, *And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us*⁵. For the Word is eternal, BEGOTTEN OF THE FATHER BEFORE ALL WORLDS: but the flesh He took on Him recently for our sake. Many contradict this, and say: “What cause was there so great, for

God to come down into humanity? And, is it at all God's nature to hold intercourse with men? And, is it possible for a virgin to bear, without man?" Since then there is much controversy, and the battle has many forms, come, let us by the grace of Christ, and the prayers of those who are present, resolve each question.

5. And first let us inquire for what cause Jesus came down. Now mind not my argumentations, for perhaps thou mayest be misled but unless thou receive testimony of the Prophets on each matter, believe not what I say: unless thou learn from the Holy Scriptures concerning the Virgin, and the place, the time, and the manner, *receive not testimony from man*⁶. For one who at present thus teaches may possibly be suspected: but what man of sense will suspect one that prophesied a thousand and more years beforehand? If then thou seekest the cause of Christ's coming, go back to the first book of the Scriptures. In six days God made the world: but the world was for man. The sun however resplendent with bright beams, yet was made to give light to man, yea, and all living creatures were formed to serve us: herbs and trees were created for our enjoyment. All the works of creation were good, but none of these was an image of God, save man only. The sun was formed by a mere command, but man by God's hands: *Let us make man after our image, and after our likeness*⁷. A wooden image of an earthly kind is held in honour; how much more a rational image of God?

But when this the greatest of the works of creation was disporting himself in Paradise, the envy of the Devil cast him out. The enemy was rejoicing over the fall of him whom he had envied: wouldest thou have had the enemy continue to rejoice? Not daring to accost the man because of his strength, he accosted as being weaker the woman, still a virgin: for it was after the expulsion from Paradise that *Adam knew his wife*⁸.

6. Cain and Abel succeeded in the second generation of mankind: and Cain was the first murderer. Afterwards a deluge was poured abroad because of the great wickedness of men: fire came down from heaven upon the people of Sodom because of their transgression. After a time God chose out Israel: but Israel also turned aside, and the chosen race was wounded. For while Moses stood before God in the mount, the people were worshipping a calf instead of God. In the lifetime of Moses, the law-giver who had said, *Thou shalt not commit adultery*, a man dared to enter a place of harlotry and transgress⁹. After Moses, Prophets were sent to cure Israel: but in their healing office they lamented that they were not able to overcome the disease, so that one of them says, *Woe is me! for the godly man is perished out of the earth, and there is none that doeth right among men*¹⁰: and again, *They are all gone out of the way, they are together become unprofitable; there is none that doeth good, no, not one*¹¹: and again, *Cursing and stealing, and adultery, and murder are poured out upon the land*¹². *Their sons and their daughters*

¹ἐνανθρωπήσαντα. The word occurs in the true Nicene formula, where, as Dr. Swainson thinks, it is "scarcely ambiguous," "it is defective." Both the Verb and the Substantive ἐνανθρώπησις are constantly used by Athanasius to denote the Incarnation in a perfectly general way, without any indication of ambiguity or defect. In the Creed proposed by Eusebius of Cæsarea instead of ἐνανθρωπήσαντα we find ἐν ἀνθρώποις πολιτευσάμενον; and in the *Expositio Fidei* ascribed to Athanasius, but of somewhat doubtful authenticity, the Incarnation is described thus ἐκ τῆς ἀχράντου παρθένου Μαρίας τὸν ἡμέτερον ἀνείληφεν ἄνθρωπον Χριστὸν Ἰησοῦν. In the Apollinarian controversy the attempt was made to interpret ἐνηνθρώπησεν as meaning not that "He became Man," but that "He assumed a man," i.e. that "the man was first formed and then assumed" (Gregory, *Epist. ad Cledon*, quoted by Swainson, p. 83), or else merely that "He dwelt among men." But the context of the passages in which Cyril uses the word (iv. 9; xii. 3) clearly shews that he employed it in the perfectly orthodox sense which it has in the Nicene Formula and in Athanasius.

²See below, § 21 ff. Cyril means that the direct proof cannot be given at once, because there are many errors to be set aside first. Compare the end of § 4.

³See Cat. iv. 9, notes 3, 4.

⁴Athanasius (*contra Arian*. Or. I. § 9) quotes as from Arius, *Thalia*, "Christ is not Very God, but He, as others, was made God (ἐθεοποιήθη) by participation." The Eusebians in the Confession of Faith called Macrostichos (A.D. 344) condemned this view as being held by the disciples of Paul of Samosata, "who say that after the incarnation He was by advance made God, from being made by nature a mere man." The orthodox use of the word Θεοποιεῖσθαι is seen in Athan. *de Incarnat*. § 54: αὐτὸς ἐνηνθρώπησεν, ἵνα ἡμεῖς θεοποιηθῶμεν.

⁵[John i. 14.](#)

⁶[John v. 34.](#)

⁷[Gen. i. 26.](#)

⁸[Gen. 4.1.](#)

⁹[Numb. xxv. 6.](#)

¹⁰[Micah vii. 2.](#)

¹¹[Ps. xiv. 3;](#) [Rom. iii. 12.](#)

¹²[Hosea iv. 2.](#)

74

they sacrificed unto devils¹. They used auguries, and enchantments, and divinations². And again, they fastened their garments with cords, and made hangings attached to the altar³.

7. Very great was the wound of man's nature; *from the feet to the head there was no soundness in it*; none could apply mollifying ointment, neither oil, nor bandages⁴. Then bewailing and wearying themselves, the Prophets said, *Who shall give salvation out of Sion⁵?* And again, *Let Thy hand be upon the man of Thy right hand, and upon the son of man whom Thou madest strong for Thyself: so will not we go back from Thee⁶.* And another of the Prophets entreated, saying, *Bow the heavens, O Lord and come down⁷.* The wounds of man's nature pass our healing. *They slew Thy Prophets, and cast down Thine altars⁸.* The evil is irretrievable by us, and needs thee to retrieve it.

8. The Lord heard the prayer of the Prophets. The Father disregarded not the perishing of our race; He sent forth His Son, the Lord from heaven, as healer: and one of the Prophets saith, *The Lord whom ye seek, cometh, and shall suddenly come⁹.* Whither? *The Lord shall come to His own temple*, where ye stoned Him. Then another of the Prophets, on hearing this, saith to him: In speaking of the salvation of God, speakest thou quietly? In preaching the good tidings of God's coming for salvation, speakest thou in secret? *O thou that bringest good tidings to Zion, get thee up into the high mountain. Speak to the cities of Judah. What am I to speak? Behold our God! Behold! the Lord cometh with strength¹⁰!* Again the Lord Himself saith, *Behold! I come, and I will dwell in the midst of thee, saith the Lord. And many nations shall flee unto the Lord¹¹.* The Israelites rejected salvation through Me: *I come to gather all nations and tongues¹².* For He came to His own and His own received Him not¹³. Thou comest and what dost Thou bestow on the nations? *I come to gather all nations, and I will leave on them a sign¹⁴.* For from My conflict upon the Cross I give to each of My soldiers a royal seal to bear upon his forehead. Another also of the Prophets said, *He bowed the heavens also, and came down; and darkness was under His feet¹⁵.* For His coming down from heaven was not known by men.

9. Afterwards Solomon hearing his father David speak these things, built a wondrous house, and foreseeing Him who was to come into it, said in astonishment, *Will God in very deed dwell with men on the earth¹⁶?* Yea, saith David by anticipation in the Psalm inscribed *For Solomon*, wherein is this, *He shall come down like rain into a fleece¹⁷: rain*, because of His heavenly nature, and into a fleece, because of His humanity. For rain, coming down into a fleece, comes down noiselessly: so that the Magi, not knowing the mystery of the Nativity, say, *Where is He that is born King of the Jews¹⁸?* and Herod being troubled inquired concerning Him who was born, and said, *Where is the Christ to be born¹⁹?*

10. But who is this that cometh down? He says in what follows, *And with the sun He endureth, and before the moon generations of generations²⁰.* And again another of the Prophets saith, *Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Sion, shout, O daughter of Jerusalem. Behold! thy King cometh unto thee, just and having salvation²¹.* Kings are many; of which speakest thou, O Prophet? Give us a sign which other Kings have not. If thou say, A king clad in purple,

the dignity of the apparel has been anticipated. If thou say, Guarded by spear-men, and sitting in a golden chariot, this also has been anticipated by others. Give us a sign peculiar to the King whose coming thou announcest. And the Prophet maketh answer and saith, *Behold! thy King cometh unto thee, just, and having salvation: He is meek, and riding upon an ass and a young foal*, not on a chariot. Thou hast a unique sign of the King who came. Jesus alone of kings sat upon an unyoked²² foal, entering into Jerusalem with acclamations as a king. And when this King is come, what doth He? *Thou also by the blood of the covenant hast sent forth thy prisoners out of the pit wherein is no water*²³.

11. But He might perchance even sit upon a foal: give us rather a sign, where the King that entereth shall stand. And give the sign not far from the city, that it may not be unknown to us: and give us the sign plain before our eyes, that even when in the city we may behold the place. And the Prophet again makes answer, saying: *And His feet shall stand in that day upon the Mount of Olives which is before Jerusalem on the east*²⁴. Does

¹[Ps. cvi. 37.](#)

²[2 Chron. xxxiii. 6.](#)

³[Amos ii. 8:](#) *they lay themselves down beside every altar upon clothes taken in pledge* (R.V.).

⁴[Isa. i. 6.](#)

⁵[Ps. xiv. 7.](#)

⁶[Psa. 80.17,18.](#)

⁷[Ps. cxliv. 5.](#)

⁸[1 Kings xix. 10.](#)

⁹[Mal. iii. 1.](#)

¹⁰[Isa. xl. 9, 10.](#)

¹¹[Zech. ii. 10, 11.](#)

¹²[Isa. lxvi. 18.](#)

¹³[John i. 11.](#)

¹⁴[Isa. lxvi. 19](#), a passage interpreted by the Fathers of the sign of the Cross. Eusebius (*Demonstr. Evang.* vi. 25): "Who, on seeing that all who have believed in Christ use as a seal the symbol of salvation, would not reasonably be astonished at hearing the Lord's saying of old time, *And they shall come, and see My glory, and I will leave a sign upon them?*" Cf. Cat. iv. 14; xiii. 36.

¹⁵[Ps. xviii. 9](#). The "feet," interpreted allegorically, mean the Humanity, and the "darkness" the mystery of the Incarnation. See Euseb. *Demonstr. Evang.* vi. 1, § 2.

¹⁶[1 Kings viii. 27;](#) [2 Chron. vi. 18.](#)

¹⁷[Psa. 72.](#)

¹⁸[Matt. ii. 2.](#)

¹⁹[Matt. 2.4.](#)

²⁰[Ps. lxxii. 5.](#)

²¹[Zech. ix. 9.](#)

²²[ἄσαγιῆ](#), a rare word, formed from σάγη, “harness.”

²³[Zech. ix. 11.](#)

²⁴[Zech. xiv. 4.](#) “There is an excellent view from the city of the Mount of Olives which stands up over against it, especially from the height of Golgotha where Cyril was delivering his Lectures” (Cleopas).

75

any one standing within the city fail to behold the place?

12. We have two signs, and we desire to learn a third. Tell us what the Lord doth when He is come. Another Prophet saith, *Behold! our God*, and afterwards, *He will come and save us. Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf shall hear: then shall the lame man leap as an hart, and the tongue of the stammerers shall be distinct*¹. But let yet another testimony be told us. Thou sayest, O Prophet, that the Lord cometh, and doeth signs such as never were: what other clear sign tellest thou? *The Lord Himself entereth into judgment with the elders of His people, and with the princes thereof*². A notable sign! The Master judged by His servants, the elders, and submitting to it.

13. These things the Jews read, but hear not: for they have stopped the ears of their heart, that they may not hear. But let us believe in Jesus Christ, as having come in the flesh and *been made Man*, because we could not receive Him otherwise. For since we could not look upon or enjoy Him as He was, He became what we are, that so we might be permitted to enjoy Him. For if we cannot look full on the sun, which was made on the fourth day, could we behold God its Creator³? The Lord came down in fire on Mount Sinai, and the people could not bear it, but said to Moses, *Speak thou with us, and we will hear; and let not God speak to us, lest we die*⁴: and again, *For who is there of all flesh that hath heard the voice of the living God speaking out of the midst of the fire, and shall live*⁵? If to hear the voice of God speaking is a cause of death, how shall not the sight of God Himself bring death? And what wonder? Even Moses himself saith, *I exceedingly fear and quake*⁶.

14. What wouldest thou then? That He who came for our salvation should become a minister of destruction because men could not bear Him? or that He should suit His grace to our measure? Daniel could not bear the vision of an Angel, and wert thou capable of the sight of the Lord of Angels? Gabriel appeared, and Daniel fell down: and of what nature or in what guise was he that appeared? His countenance was like lightning⁷; not like the sun: *and his eyes as lamps of fire*, not as a furnace of fire: *and the voice of his words as the voice of a multitude*, not as the voice of twelve legions of angels; nevertheless the Prophet fell down. And the Angel cometh unto him, saying, *Fear not, Daniel, stand upright: be of good courage, thy words are heard*⁸. And Daniel says, I stood up trembling⁹: and not even so did he make answer, until the likeness of a man's hand touched him. And when he that appeared was changed into the appearance of a man, then Daniel spoke: and what saith he? *O my Lord, at the vision of Thee my inward parts were turned within me, and no strength remaineth in me, neither is there breath left in me*¹⁰. If an Angel appearing took away the Prophet's voice and strength, would the appearance of God have allowed him to breathe? And until *there touched me as it were a vision of a man*¹¹, saith the Scripture, Daniel took not courage. So then after trial shewn of our weakness, the Lord assumed that which man required: for since man required to hear from one of like countenance, the Saviour took on Him the nature of like affections, that men might be the more easily instructed.

15. Learn also another cause. Christ came that He might be baptized, and might sanctify Baptism: He came that He might work wonders, walking upon the waters of the sea. Since then before His appearance in flesh, *the sea saw Him and fled, and Jordan was turned back*¹², the Lord took to Himself His body, that the sea might endure the sight, and Jordan receive Him without fear. This then is one cause; but there is also a second. Through Eve yet virgin came death; through a virgin, or rather from a virgin, must the Life appear: that as the serpent beguiled the

one, so to the other Gabriel might bring good tidings¹³. Men forsook God, and made carved images of men. Since therefore an image of man was falsely worshipped as God, God became truly Man, that the falsehood might be done away. The Devil had used the flesh as an instrument against us; and Paul knowing this, saith, *But I see another law in my members warring against the law of my mind, and bringing me into captivity*¹⁴, and the rest. By the very same weapons, therefore, wherewith the Devil used to vanquish us, have we been saved. The Lord took on Him from us our likeness, that He might save man's nature: He took our likeness, that He might give greater grace to that which lacked; that sinful humanity might become partaker of God. *For where sin abounded, grace did much more abound*¹⁵. It

¹[Isa. xxxv. 4-6.](#)

²[Isa. 3. 14.](#)

³Cf. Epist. Barnab. § 13: "For had He not come in flesh, how could we men have been safe in beholding Him? For in beholding the Sun, which being the work of His hands shall cease to be, men have no strength to fix their eyes upon him."

⁴[Exod. xx. 19.](#)

⁵[Deut. v. 26.](#)

⁶[Heb. xii. 21.](#)

⁷[Dan. x. 6.](#)

⁸[Dan. x. 12.](#)

⁹[Dan. 10. 11.](#)

¹⁰[Dan. 10. 16. 17.](#)

¹¹[Dan. 10. 18.](#)

¹²[Ps. cxiv. 3.](#)

¹³Justin M. (*Tryph.* § 100): "Eve, when she was a virgin and undefiled, having conceived the word of the serpent, brought forth disobedience and death: but the Virgin Mary received faith and joy, when the Angel Gabriel announced the good tidings to her."

¹⁴[Rom. vii. 23.](#)

¹⁵[Rom. 5. 20.](#)

76

behaved the Lord to suffer for us; but if the Devil had known Him, he would not have dared to approach Him. *For had they known it, they would not have crucified the Lord of Glory*¹. His body therefore was made a bait to death that the dragon², hoping to devour it, might disgorge those also who had been already devoured³. For *Death prevailed and devoured*; and again, *God wiped away every tear from off every face*⁴.

16. Was it without reason that Christ was made Man? Are our teachings ingenious phrases and human subtleties? Are not the Holy Scriptures our salvation? Are not the predictions of the Prophets? Keep then, I pray thee, this deposit⁵ undisturbed, and let none remove thee: believe that God became Man. But though it has been

proved possible for Him to be made Man, yet if the Jews still disbelieve, let us hold this forth to them: What strange thing do we announce in saying that God was made Man, when yourselves say that Abraham received the Lord as a guest⁶? What strange thing do we announce, when Jacob says, *For I have seen God face to face, and my life is preserved*⁷? The Lord, who ate with Abraham, ate also with us. What strange thing then do we announce? Nay more, we produce two witnesses, those who stood before Lord on Mount Sinai: Moses was in a *clift of the rock*⁸, and Elias was once in a clift of the rock⁹: they being present with Him at His Transfiguration on Mount Tabor, *spoke to the Disciples of His decease which fire should accomplish at Jerusalem*¹⁰. But, as I said before, it has been proved possible for Him to be made man: and the rest of the proofs may be left for the studious to collect.

17. My statement, however, promised to declare¹¹ also the time of the Saviour's and the place: and I must not go away convicted of falsehood, but rather send away the Church's novices¹² well assured. Let us therefore inquire the time when our Lord came: because His coming is recent, and is disputed: and because *Christ Jesus is the same yesterday, and to-day, and for ever*¹³. Moses then, the prophet, saith, *A Prophet shall the Lord your God raise up unto you of your brethren, like unto me*¹⁴: but let that "like unto me" be reserved awhile to be examined in its proper place¹⁵. But when cometh this Prophet that is expected? Recur, he says, to what has been written by me: examine carefully Jacob's prophecy addressed to Judah: *Judah, thee may thy brethren praise*, and afterwards, not to quote the whole, *A prince shall not fail out of Judah, nor a ruler from his loins, until He come, for whom it is reserved; and He is the expectation, not of the Jews but of the Gentiles*¹⁶. He gave, therefore, as a sign of Christ's advent the cessation of the Jewish rule. If they are not now under the Romans, the Christ is not yet come: if they still have a prince of the race of Judah and of David¹⁷, he is not yet come that was expected. For I am ashamed to tell of their recent doings concerning those who are now called Patriarchs¹⁸ among them, and what their descent is, and who their mother: but I leave it to those who know. But He that cometh as *the expectation of the Gentiles*, what further sign then hath He? He says next, *Binding his foal unto the vine*¹⁹. Thou seest that foal which was clearly announced by Zachariah²⁰.

18. But again thou askest yet another testimony of the time. *The LORD said unto Me, Thou art My Son; this day have I begotten Thee*: and a few words further on, *Thou shalt rule them with a rod of iron*²¹. I have said before that the kingdom of the Romans is clearly called a rod of iron; but what is wanting concerning this let us further call to mind out of Daniel. For in relating and interpreting to Nebuchadnezzar the image of the statue, he tells also his whole vision concerning it: and that a stone cut out of a mountain without hands, that is, not set up by human contrivance, should overpower the whole world: and he speaks most clearly thus; *And in the days of*

¹[1 Cor. ii. 8.](#)

²Death is here called "the dragon," as in xiv. 17 he is called "the invisible whale," in allusion to the case of Jonah.

³On Christ's descent into Hades compare iv. 11; xiv. 19; and Eusebius (*Dem. Evang.* x. 50), and Athanasius (c. *Arian. Or.* iii. 56): "The Lord, at Whom the keepers of hell's gates shuddered and set open hell. The Lord, Whom death as a dragon flees."

⁴[Isa. xxv. 8.](#) The first clause, *He hath swallowed up death for ever* (R.V.), is mistranslated in the Septuagint.

⁵ταύτην τὴν παρακαταθηκὴν. [1 Tim. vi. 20](#); [2 Tim. i. 14.](#)

⁶[Gen. xviii. 1](#) ff.

⁷[Gen. 32.30.](#)

⁸[Ex. xxxiii. 22.](#)

⁹[1 Kings xix. 8.](#)

¹⁰[Luke ix. 30, 31.](#) On the tradition that Mt. Tabor was the place of the Transfiguration, accepted by S. Jerome and

other Fathers, compare Lightfoot (*Hor. Hebr.* in Marc. ix. 2).

¹¹Cat. xii. 5. For εὐρεῖν the recent Editors with MSS. A.R.C. and Grodecq. have ἐρεῖν.

¹²νεήλυδας·

¹³Heb. xiii. 8. Cyril is supposed to refer to two objections to the Incarnation, one founded on the lateness of Christ's coming, the other on the Divine immutability. But the meaning of the passage is not clear, and the construction of the second sentence is incomplete.

¹⁴Deut. xviii. 15; Acts vii. 37.

¹⁵ἐξεταζόμενον, a clear instance of the Gerundive, or quasi-Future, sense of the Present Participle, common in Cyril. "This intention is not fulfilled in the sequel of these Lectures" (R.W.C.).

¹⁶Gen. xlix. 8, 10.

¹⁷According to Cyril (§ 19, below) and other Fathers, the continuance of Jewish rulers ceased on the accession of Herod an Idumean. Compare Justin M. (*Tryphon* §§ 52, 120); Eusebius (*Demonstr. Evang.* VIII. 1). On modern interpretations of the passage see Delitzsch (*New Commentary on Genesis*), Briggs (*Messianic Prophecy*, p. 93), Cheyne (*Isaiah*, Vol. II. p. 189), Driver (*Journal of Philology*, No. 27, 1885).

¹⁸A full and interesting account of the Jewish Patriarchs of the West established at Tiberias from the time of Antoninus Pius till the close of the 4th century is contained in Dean Milman's *History of the Jews*, Vol. III. Compare Epiphanius (*Hæres.* xxx. § 3 ff.).

¹⁹Gen. xlix. 11.

²⁰Zech. ix. 9, quoted above, § 10.

²¹Ps. ii. 7, 9. The passage is interpreted by Cyril (xi. 5) of the eternal generation of the Son: here it refers to His Incarnation, or perhaps is meant only to identify the Son of God with him who "shall rule with a rod of iron."

77

those kingdoms the God of heaven shall set up a kingdom, which shall never be destroyed, and His kingdom shall not be left to another people¹.

19. But we seek still more clearly the proof of the time of His coming. For man being hard to persuade, unless he gets the very years for a clear calculation, does not believe what is stated. What then is the season, and what the manner of the time? It is when, on the failure of the kings descended from Judah, Herod a foreigner succeeds to the kingdom? The Angel, therefore, who converses with Daniel says, and do thou now mark the words, *And thou shalt know and understand: From the going forth of the word for making answer², and for the building of Jerusalem, until Messiah the Prince are seven weeks and three score and two weeks³*. Now three score and nine weeks of years contain four hundred and eighty-three years. He said, therefore, that after the building of Jerusalem, four hundred and eighty-three years having passed, and the rulers having failed, then cometh a certain king of another race, in whose time the Christ is to be born. Now Darius the Mede⁴ built the city in the sixth year of his own reign, and first year of the 66th Olympiad according to the Greeks. Olympiad is the name among the Greeks of the games celebrated after four years, because of the day which in every four years of the sun's courses is made up of the three⁵ (supernumerary) hours in each year. And Herod is king in the 186th Olympiad, in the 4th year thereof. Now from the 66th to the 186th Olympiad there are 120 Olympiads intervening, and a little over. So then the 120 Olympiads make up 480 years: for the other three years remaining are perhaps taken up in the interval between the first and fourth years. And there thou hast the proof according to the Scripture which saith, *From the going forth of the word that Jerusalem be restored and built until Messiah the Prince are seven weeks and sixty-two weeks*. Of the times, therefore, thou hast for the present this proof, although there are also other different interpretations concerning the aforesaid weeks of years in Daniel.

20. But now hear the place of the promise, as Micah says, *And thou, Bethlehem, house of Ephrathah, art thou little to be among the thousands of Judah? For out of thee shall come forth unto Me a ruler, to be governor in Israel: and His goings forth are from the beginning, from the days of eternity*⁸. But assuredly as to the places, thou being an inhabitant of Jerusalem, knowest also beforehand what is written in the hundred and thirty-first psalm. *Lo! we heard of it at Ephrathah, we found it in the plains of the wood*⁷. For a few years ago the place was woody⁸. Again thou hast heard Habakkuk say to the Lord, *When the years draw nigh, thou shalt be made known, when the time is come, thou shalt be shewn*⁹. And what is the sign, O Prophet, of the Lord's coming? And presently he saith, *In the midst of two lives shalt thou be known*¹⁰, plainly saying this to the Lord, "Having come in the flesh thou livest and diest, and after rising from the dead thou livest again." Further, from what part of the region round Jerusalem cometh He? From east, or west, or north, or south? Tell us exactly. And he makes answer most plainly and says, *God shall come from Teman*¹¹ (now Teman is by interpretation 'south') *and the Holy One from Mount Paran*¹², shady, woody: what the Psalmist

¹[Dan. ii. 44.](#)

²Sep. τοῦ ἀποκριθῆναι, a frequent meaning of the Hebrew בִּישָׁהָל, by which the Greek Translators understood the answer of Darius to the Letter of Tatnai and his companions. Both A.V. and R.V. render the word "to restore."

³[Dan. ix. 25.](#)

⁴Darius the Mede ([Dan. v. 31](#)) succeeded Belshazzar as king in Babylon B.C. 538, the date assigned in [Dan. ix. 1](#) to the prophecy of the 70 years. But "Darius the king" in whose 6th year (B.C. 516) the Temple was finished ([Ezra vi. 15](#)) was Darius Hystaspis, king of Persia, whom Cyril here confounds with "Darius the Mede." He also fails to distinguish the rebuilding of the Temple, B.C. 516, from the rebuilding of the City by permission of Artaxerxes Longimanus, B.C. 444 ([Nehemiah](#), ii. 1).

⁵In speaking of three supernumerary hours in the year instead of nearly six, Cyril seems to follow the division of the diurnal period into twelve parts, not twenty-four. The Jews had derived this division either from the Egyptians, or more probably from the Babylonians: see Herodotus, II. 109.

⁶[Micah v. 2](#), quoted also in Cat. xi. 20, where see note.

⁷[Ps. cxxxii. 6](#). The Psalmist refers to the recovery of the Ark, but Cyril interprets the passage mystically of Christ, and the place of His Nativity.

⁸The Benedictine Editor thinks that in calling the place "woody" Cyril refers to a grove planted by Hadrian in honour of Adonis, which had been destroyed about sixteen years before, when Helena built the Church at Bethlehem: see Eusebius, *Life of Constantine*, III. 43. But Cyril evidently means that the wood of which the Psalmist speaks had remained till a few years before. Ephrathah is the ancient name of Bethlehem ([Gen. xxxv. 19](#); [xlviii. 7](#)), and by "the fields of the wood" is probably meant Kirjath-Jearim, "the city of woods," where the Ark was found by David ([2 Sam vi. 2](#); [1 Chron. xiii. 6](#)).

⁹[Hab. iii. 2](#): (R.V.) O Lord, revive Thy work in the midst of the years, in the midst of the years make it known. The Septuagint gives a different sense: *In the midst of two lives (or, living beings) shalt Thou be known: when the years draw nigh Thou shalt be recognised: when the time is come, Thou shalt be shewn*. The two latter clauses seem to be different renderings of the same Hebrew words.

¹⁰ἐξῆς. This clause comes before the preceding quotation: Cyril misplaces them. In the Vatican and other MSS. of the Sept. and in some Fathers ζῶων ("living creatures") is found in place of ζῶων "lives;" but the latter reading is evidently required by the interpretation which follows in Cyril. Origen (*de Principiis*, I. 4), who recognises both readings ("In medio vel duorum animalium, vel duarum vitarum, cognoscetis,") interprets the "two living beings" of the Son and the Spirit. Eusebius (*Demonstr. Evang* VI. 15) observes that ζῶων is to be read as perispomenon from the Singular ζῶή, and interprets it of Christ's life with God, and life on earth. Theodoret says, in commenting on the passage, "To me it seems that the Prophet means not "living beings" (ζῶα) but "lives" (ζῶας), the present life, and that which is to come, between which is the appearance of the Righteous Judge."

¹¹[Hab. iii. 3](#). Cyril interprets the word Θαμάν (Heb. תִּמָּן) as a common Noun meaning “South,” and the Vulgate has here “ab Austro veniet.” The prophecy is thus referred to Bethlehem, as lying to the South of Jerusalem. Eusebius (*Dem. Evang.* VI. 15) mentions this as the rendering of Theodotion in his Greek Version, about 180 A.D. As a proper name Teman denotes a district and town in the southern part of Idumea, so called from a grandson of Esau ([Gen. xxxvi. 11, 15, 42](#); [Jer. xlix. 7, 20](#); [Ezek. xxv. 13](#); [Amos i. 12](#); [Obad. 9](#)).

¹²The following note is slightly abridged from the Edition of Alexandrides of Jerusalem. “Previous Editions read ἔξ ὄρους φαράν κατασκίου δασέος. This reading is found in Cod. Vat. and other mss. of the Septuagint, but φαράν is omitted in the Aldine and many other copies nor was it read in the mss. of the Sept. in Jerome’s time, as is clear from his comments on the passage. In the mss. of Cyril, Ottob. R.C.V. Monac. I. and II. it is wanting. Paran is the name of the desert towards the S. of Palestine lying between it and Egypt ([Gen. xxi. 21](#); [Num. i. 12](#)). There was also a Mount Paran ([Deut. xxxiii. 2](#)). But since Cyril applies the prophecy to Bethlehem, and the “shady thickly-wooded mountain” of Habakkuk is identified with “the plains of the wood” of David, we may safely conclude that Cyril did not read φαράν in his copies of the Septuagint, nor write it in his Lecture: but the reading crept in from the later copyists, accustomed to the reading φαράν in the Septuagint.”

78

spake in like words, *We found it in the plains of the wood.*

21. We ask further, of whom cometh He and how? And this Esaias tells us: *Behold! the virgin shall conceive in her womb, and shall bring forth a Son, and they shall call His name Emmanuel*¹. This the Jews contradict, for of old it is their wont wickedly to oppose the truth: and they say that it is not written “the virgin,” but “the damsel.” But though I assent to what they say, even so I find the truth. For we must ask them, If a virgin be forced, when does she cry out and call for helpers, after or before the outrage? If, therefore, the Scripture elsewhere says, *The betrothed damsel cried, and there was none to save her*², doth it not speak of a virgin?

But that you may learn more plainly that even a virgin is called in Holy Scripture a “damsel,” hear the Book of the Kings, speaking of Abishag the Shunamite, *And the damsel was very fair*³: for that as a virgin she was chosen and brought to David is admitted.

22. But the Jews say again, This was said to Ahaz in reference to Hezekiah. Well, then, let us read the Scripture: *Ask thee a sign of the Lord thy God, in the depth or in the height*⁴. And the sign certainly must be something astonishing. For the water from the rock was a sign, the sea divided, the sun turning back, and the like. But in what I am going to mention there is still more manifest refutation of the Jews. (I know that I am speaking at much length, and that my hearers are wearied: but bear with the fulness of my statements, because it is for Christ’s sake these questions are moved, and they concern no ordinary matters.) Now as Isaiah spoke this in the reign of Ahaz, and Ahaz reigned only sixteen years, and the prophecy was spoken to him within these years, the objection of the Jews is refuted by the fact that the succeeding king, Hezekiah, son of Ahaz, was twenty-five years old when he began to reign: for as the prophecy is confined within sixteen years, he must have been begotten of Ahaz full nine years before the prophecy. What need then was there to utter the prophecy concerning one who had been already begotten even before the reign of father Ahaz⁵? For he said not, *hath conceived*, but “*the virgin shall conceive*,” speaking as with foreknowledge⁶.

23. We know then for certain that the Lord was to be born of a Virgin, but we have to shew of what family the Virgin was. *The Lord sware in truth unto David, and will not set it aside. Of the fruit of body will I set upon thy throne*⁷: and again, *seed will I establish for ever, and his throne as the days of heaven*⁸. And afterwards, *Once have I sworn by My holiness that I will not lie unto David. His seed shall endure for ever, and his throne as the sun before Me, and as the moon established for ever*⁹. Thou seest that the discourse is of Christ, not of Solomon. For Solomon’s throne endured not as the sun. But if any deny this, because Christ sat not on David’s throne of wood, we will bring forward that saying, *The Scribes and the Pharisees sit in Moses’ seat*¹⁰: for it signifies not his wooden seat, but the authority of his teaching. In like manner then I would have you seek for David’s throne not the throne of wood, but the kingdom itself. Take, too, as my witnesses the children who cried aloud, *Hosanna to the Son of David*¹¹, *blessed is the King of Israel*¹². And the blind men also say, *Son of David, have mercy on us*¹³. Gabriel too testifies plainly to Mary, saying, *And the Lord God shall give unto Him the throne of His father David*¹⁴. Paul also saith, *Remember Jesus Christ raised from the dead, of the seed of David, according to my Gospel*¹⁵: and in the beginning of the Epistle to the Romans he saith, *Which was made of the seed of David*

according to the flesh¹⁶. Receive thou therefore Him that was born of David, believing the prophecy which saith, *And in that day there shall be a root of Jesse, and He that shall rise to rule over the Gentiles: in Him shall the Gentiles trust*¹⁷.

24. But the Jews are much troubled at these things. This also Isaiah foreknew, saying, *And they shall wish that they had been burnt with fire: for unto us a child is born (not unto them), unto us a Son is given*¹⁸. Mark thou

¹[Isa. vii. 14](#). The objection of the Jews that the Hebrew word “Almah” means “a young woman,” whether married or not, is mentioned by Justin M. (*Tryph.* 43, 67, 71), and by Eusebius (*Dem. Evang.* VII. i. 315).

²[Deut. xxii. 27](#).

³[1 Kings i. 4](#). Cyril’s argument is fully justified by the actual usage of “Almah,” which certainly refers to unmarried women in [Gen. 24.43](#); [Ex. 2.8](#); [Song of Sol. 1.3](#). The same is probably the meaning in [Ps. lxviii. 25](#): “in the midst were the damsels playing with the timbrels.” There is no passage in which the word can be shewn to mean a married woman.

⁴[Isa. vii. 11](#).

⁵Compare Justin M. (*Tryph.* § 77), Euseb. (*Demonstr. Evang.* L. VII. c. i. 317).

⁶In the Hebrew the word used is a Participle, and describes what Isaiah sees in a prophetic vision; “*Behold, the damsel—with child.*”

⁷[Ps. cxxxii. 11](#).

⁸[Psa. 89.22](#).

⁹[vv Psa. 89.35-37](#).

¹⁰[Matt. xxiii. 2](#).

¹¹[Matt. 21.9](#).

¹²[John xii. 13](#).

¹³[Matt. xx. 30](#).

¹⁴[Luke i. 32](#).

¹⁵[2 Tim. ii. 8](#).

¹⁶[Rom. i. 3](#).

¹⁷[Is. xi. 10](#); [Rom. xv. 12](#).

¹⁸[Isa. ix. 5](#).

that at first He was the Son of God, then was given to us. And a little after he says, *And of His peace there is no bound*¹. The Romans have bounds: of the kingdom of the Son of God there is no bound. The Persians and the Medes have bounds, but the Son has no bound. Then next, *upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom to*

order it. The Holy Virgin, therefore, is from David.

25. For it became Him who is most pure, and a teacher of purity, to have come forth from a pure bride-chamber. For if he who well fulfils the office of a priest of Jesus abstains from a wife, how should Jesus Himself be born of man and woman? *For thou*, saith He in the Psalms, art *He that took Me out of the womb*². Mark that carefully, He that took Me out of the womb, signifying that He was begotten without man, being taken from a virgin's womb and flesh. For the manner is different with those who are begotten according to the course of marriage.

26. And from such members He is not ashamed to assume flesh, who is the framer of those very members. But then who telleth us this? The Lord saith unto Jeremiah: *Before I formed thee in the belly, I knew thee: and before thou camest forth out of the womb, I sanctified thee*³. If, then, in fashioning man He was not ashamed of the contact, was He ashamed in fashioning for His own sake the holy Flesh, the veil of His Godhead? It is God who even now creates the children in the womb, as it is written in Job, *Hast thou not poured me out as milk, and curdled me like cheese? Thou hast clothed me with skin and flesh, and hast knit me together with bones and sinews*⁴. There is nothing polluted in the human frame except a man defile this with fornication and adultery. He who formed Adam formed Eve also, and male and female were formed by God's hands. None of the members of the body as formed from the beginning is polluted. Let the mouths of all heretics be stopped who slander their bodies, or rather Him who formed them. But let us remember Paul's saying, *Know ye not that your bodies are the temples of the Holy Ghost which is in you*⁵? And again the Prophet hath spoken before in the person of Jesus, *My flesh is from them*⁶: and in another place it is written, *Therefore will He give them up, until the time that she bringeth forth*⁷. And what is the sign? He tells us in what follows, *She shall bring forth, and the remnant of their brethren shall return*. And what are the nuptial pledges of the Virgin, the holy bride? *And I will betroth thee unto Me in faithfulness*⁸. And Elizabeth, talking with Mary, speaks in like manner: *And blessed is she that believed; for there shall be a performance of those things which were told her from the Lord*⁹.

27. But both Greeks and Jews harass us and say that it was impossible for the Christ to be born of a virgin. As for the Greeks we will stop their mouths from their own fables. For ye who say that stones being thrown were changed into men¹⁰, how say ye that it is impossible for a virgin to bring forth? Ye who fable that a daughter was born from the brain¹¹, how say ye that it is impossible for a son to have been born from a virgin's womb? Ye who falsely say that Dionysus was born from the thigh of your Zeus¹², how set ye at nought our truth? I know that I am speaking of things unworthy of the present audience: but in order that thou in due season mayest rebuke the Greeks, we have brought these things forward answering them from their own fables.

28. But those of the circumcision meet thou with this question: Whether is harder, for an aged woman, barren and past age, to bear, or for a virgin in the prime of youth to conceive? Sarah was barren, and though it had ceased to be with her after the manner of women, yet, contrary to nature, she bore a child. If, then, it is against nature for a barren woman to conceive, and also for a virgin, either, therefore, reject both, or accept both. For it is the same God¹³ who both wrought the one and appointed the other. For thou wilt not dare to say that it was possible for God in that former case, and impossible in this latter. And again: how is it natural for a man's hand to be changed in a single hour into a different appearance and restored again? How then was the hand of Moses made white as snow, and at once restored again? But thou sayest that God's will made the change. In that case God's will has the power, and has it then no power in this case? That moreover was a sign concerning the Egyptians only, but this was a sign given to the whole world. But whether is the more difficult, O ye Jews? For a virgin to bear, or for a rod to be quickened into a living creature? Ye confess that in the case of Moses a perfectly straight rod became

¹v.[Isa. 9.7](#).

²Ps. [xxii. 9](#).

³Jer. [i. 5](#).

⁴Job [x. 10, 11](#).

⁵1 Cor. [vi. 19](#).

⁶Hos. [ix. 12](#). R.V. *Woe also to them, when I depart from them*. The Seventy mistook ירושק, "at my departure," for

וְרִשְׁתִּי, “my flesh.”

⁷[Mic. v. 3.](#)

⁸[Hos. ii. 20.](#)

⁹[Luke i. 45.](#)

¹⁰See the story of Pyrrha and Deucalion in Pindar, *Ol.* ix. 60: ἄτερ δ’ εὐνᾶς κτησάσθαι λίθινον γόνον, and in Ovid. *Metam.* i. 260 ff.

¹¹Athena was said to have sprung armed from the head of Zeus: Pindar, *Ol.* vii. 65: κορυφὰν κατ’ ἄκραν ἀνορούσαισ’ ἀλλάλαξεν ὑπερμάκει βοᾶ. Cf. Hes. *Theog.* 924.

¹²Eurip. *Bacchae.* 295; Ovid. *Metam.* iv. 11.

¹³Codd. Mon. i, A: ὁ γὰρ αὐτὸς Θεός. Bened. ὁ γὰρ Θεὸς αὐτός.

80

like a serpent, and was terrible to him who cast it down, and he who before held the rod fast, fled from it as from a serpent; for a serpent in truth it was: but he fled not because he feared that which he held, but because he dreaded Him that had changed it. A rod had teeth and eyes like a serpent: do then seeing eyes grow out of a rod, and cannot a child be born of a virgin’s womb, if God wills? For I say nothing of the fact that Aaron’s rod also produced in a single night what other trees produce in several years. For who knows not that a rod, after losing its bark, will never sprout, not even if it be planted in the midst of rivers? But since God is not dependent on the nature of trees, but is the Creator of their natures, the unfruitful, and dry, and barkless rod budded, and blossomed, and bare almonds. He, then, who for the sake of the typical high-priest gave fruit supernaturally to the rod, would He not for the sake of the true High-Priest grant to the Virgin to bear a child?

29. These are excellent suggestions of the narratives: but the Jews still contradict, and do not yield to the statements concerning the rod, unless they may be persuaded by similar strange and supernatural births. Question them, therefore, in this way: of whom in the beginning was Eve begotten? What mother conceived her the motherless? But the Scripture saith that she was born out of Adam’s side. Is Eve then born out of a man’s side without a mother, and is a child not to be born without a father, of a virgin’s womb? This debt of gratitude was due to men from womankind: for Eve was begotten of Adam, and not conceived of a mother, but as it were brought forth of man alone. Mary, therefore, paid the debt, of gratitude, when not by man but of herself alone in an immaculate way she conceived of the Holy Ghost by the power of God.

30. But let us take what is yet a greater wonder than this. For that of bodies bodies should be conceived, even if wonderful, is nevertheless possible: but that the dust of the earth should become a man, this is more wonderful. That clay moulded together should assume the coats and splendours of the eyes, this is more wonderful. That out of dust of uniform appearance should be produced both the firmness of bones, and the softness of lungs, and other different kinds of members, this is wonderful. That clay should be animated and travel round the world self moved, and should build houses, this is wonderful. That clay should teach, and talk, and act as carpenter, and as king, this is wonderful. Whence, then, O ye most ignorant Jews, was Adam made? Did not God take dust from the earth, and fashion this wonderful frame? Is then clay changed into an eye, and cannot a virgin bear a son. Does that which for men is more impossible take place, and is that which is possible never to occur?

31. Let us remember these things, brethren: let us use these weapons in our defence. Let us not endure those heretics who teach Christ’s coming as a phantom. Let us abhor those also who say that the Saviour’s birth was of husband and wife; who have dared to say that He was the child of Joseph and Mary, because it is written, *And he took unto him his wife*¹. For let us remember Jacob who before he received Rachel, said to Laban, *Give me my wife*². For as she before the wedded state, merely because there was a promise, was called the wife of Jacob, so also Mary, because she had been betrothed, was called the wife of Joseph. Mark also the accuracy of the Gospel, saying, *And in the sixth month the Angel Gabriel was sent from God unto a city of Galilee, named Nazareth, to a virgin espoused to a man whose name was Joseph*³, and so forth. And again when the census took place, and

Joseph went up to enrol himself, what saith the Scripture? *And Joseph also went up from Galilee, to enrol himself with Mary who was espoused to him, being great with child*⁴. For though she was with child, yet it said not “with his wife,” but with her who was *espoused to him*. For *God sent forth His Son*, says Paul, not made of a man and a woman, but *made of a woman*⁵ only, that is of a virgin. For that the virgin also is called a woman, we shewed before⁶. For He who makes souls virgin, was born of a Virgin.

32. But thou wonderest at the event: even she herself who bare him wondered at this. For she saith to Gabriel, *How shall this be to me, since I know not a man?* But he says, *The Holy Ghost shall come upon thee, and the power of the Highest shall overshadow thee: wherefore also the holy thing which is to be born shall be called the Son of God*⁷. Immaculate and undefiled was His generation: for where the Holy Spirit breathes, there all pollution is taken away: undefiled from the Virgin was the incarnate generation of the Only-begotten. And if the heretics gainsay the truth, the Holy Ghost shall convict them: that overshadowing power of the Highest shall wax wrath: Gabriel shall stand face to face against them in the day of judgment: the place of the manger, which received the Lord, shall put them to shame. The shepherds, who then received the good tidings, shall bear witness; and the host of the Angels who sang praises and hymns, and said,

¹[Matt. i. 24.](#)

²[Gen. xxix. 21.](#)

³[Luke i. 26, 27.](#)

⁴[Luke 2.4,5.](#)

⁵[Gal. iv. 4.](#)

⁶See above, § 21.

⁷[Luke i. 34, 35.](#)

*Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among men of His good pleasure*¹: the Temple into which He was then carried up on the fortieth day: the pairs of turtle-doves, which were offered on His behalf²: and Symeon who then took Him up in his arms, and Anna the prophetess who was present.

33. Since God then beareth witness, and the Holy Ghost joins in the witness, and Christ says, *Why do ye seek to kill me, a man who has told you the truth*³? let the heretics be silenced who speak against His humanity, for they speak against Him, who saith, *Handle me, and see; for a spirit hath not flesh and bones, as ye see me have*⁴. Adored be the Lord the Virgin-born, and let Virgins acknowledge the crown of their own state: let the order also of Solitaries acknowledge the glory of chastity for we men are not deprived of the dignity of chastity. In the Virgin's womb the Saviour's period of nine months was passed: but the Lord was for thirty and three years a man: so that if a virgin glories⁵ because of the nine months, much more we because of the many years.

34. But let us all by God's grace run the race of chastity, *young men and maidens, old men and children*⁶; not going after wantonness, but praising the name of Christ. Let us not be ignorant of the glory of chastity: for its crown is angelic, and its excellence above man. Let us be chary of our bodies which are to shine as the sun: let us not for short pleasure defile so great, so noble a body: for short and momentary is the sin, but the shame for many years and for ever. Angels walking upon earth are they who practise chastity: the Virgins have their portion with Mary the Virgin. Let all vain ornament be banished, and every hurtful glance, and all wanton gait, and every flowing robe, and perfume enticing to pleasure. But in all for perfume let there be the prayer of sweet odour, and the practice⁷ of good works, and the sanctification of our bodies: that the Virgin-born Lord may say even of us, both men who live in chastity and women who wear the crown, *I will dwell in them; and walk in them, and I will be their God, and they shall be My people*⁸. To whom be the glory for ever and ever. Amen.

¹[Luke ii. 14.](#)

²[Luke 2.24](#); [Lev. 12.8](#) one pair only of turtles is prescribed, to be offered for the mother, not for the child. But the reading τὰ ζεύγη in Cyril is confirmed by that in St. Luke, τοῦ καθαρισμοῦ αὐτῶν. See the authorities in Tischendorf.

³[John vii. 19](#); [viii. 40.](#)

⁴[Luke xxiv. 39.](#)

⁵σεμνύνεται. Rivet, misled by a double error in the old Latin version, "veneratur," accused Cyril of approving the worship of the Virgin Mary.

⁶[Ps. cxlviii. 12.](#)

⁷ἡ τῶν ἀγαθῶν προᾶξις, Cod. A.

⁸[2 Cor. vi. 16.](#)

82

Lecture XIII.

On the words, Crucified and Buried.

[ISAIAH LIII. 1, 7](#)

Who hath believed our report? and to whom is the arm of the Lord revealed?...He is brought as a lamb to the slaughter, &c.

1. EVERY deed of Christ is a cause of glorying to the Catholic Church, but her greatest of all glorying is in the Cross; and knowing this, Paul says, *But God forbid that I should glory, save in the Cross of Christ*¹. For wondrous indeed it was, that one who was blind from his birth should receive sight in Siloam²; but what is this compared with the blind of the whole world? A great thing it was, and passing nature, for Lazarus to rise again on the fourth day; but the grace extended to him alone, and what was it compared with the dead in sins throughout the world? Marvellous it was, that five loaves should pour forth food for the five thousand; but what is that to those who are famishing in ignorance through all the world? It was marvellous that she should have been loosed who had been bound by Satan eighteen years: yet what is this to all of us, who were fast bound in the chains of our sins? But the glory of the Cross led those who were blind through ignorance into light, loosed all who were held fast by sin, and ransomed the whole world of mankind.

2. And wonder not that the whole world was ransomed; for it was no mere man, but the only-begotten Son of God, who died on its behalf. Moreover one man's sin, even Adam's, had power to bring death to the world; but *if by the trespass of the one death reigned over the world, how shall not life much rather reign by the righteousness of the One*³? And if because of the tree of food they were then cast out of paradise, shall not believers now more easily enter into paradise because of the Tree of Jesus? If the first man formed out of the earth brought in universal death, shall not He who formed him out of the earth bring in eternal life, being Himself the Life? If Phinees, when he waxed zealous and slew the evil-doer, staved the wrath of God, shall not Jesus, who slew not another, but *gave up Himself for a ransom*⁴, put away the wrath which is against mankind?

3. Let us then not be ashamed of the Cross of our Saviour, but rather glory in it. *For the word of the Cross is unto Jews a stumbling-block, and unto Gentiles foolishness, but to us salvation: and to them that are perishing it is foolishness, but unto us which are being saved it is the power of God*⁶. For it was not a mere man who died for us, as I said before, but the Son of God, God made man. Further; if the lamb under Moses drove the destroyer⁶ far away, did not much rather the *Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world*⁷, deliver us from our sins? The blood of a silly sheep gave salvation; and shall not the Blood of the Only-begotten much rather save? If any disbelieve the power of the Crucified, let him ask the devils; if any believe not words, let him believe what he sees. Many have been crucified throughout the world, but by none of these are the devils scared; but when they see even the Sign of the Cross of Christ, who was crucified for us, they shudder⁸. For those men died for their own sins, but Christ for the sins of others; for He *did no sin, neither was guile found in His mouth*⁹. It is not Peter who says this, for then we might suspect that he was partial to his Teacher; but it is Esaias who says it, who was not indeed present with Him in the flesh, but in the Spirit foresaw His coming in the flesh. Yet why now bring the Prophet only as a witness? take for a witness Pilate himself, who gave sentence upon Him, saying, *I find no fault in this Man*¹⁰: and when he gave Him up, and had washed his

¹[Gal. vi. 14.](#)

²[Cf. Athanas. \(de Incarn. § 18, 49\).](#)

³[Rom. v. 17, 18.](#)

⁴[1 Tim. ii. 6.](#)

⁵[1 Cor. i. 18, 23.](#)

⁶[Ex. xii. 23.](#)

⁷[John i. 29.](#)

⁸[Cf. Cat. i. 3; xvii. 35, 36.](#)

⁹[1 Pet. 2.22; Isa. 53.9.](#)

¹⁰[Luke xxiii. 14.](#)

83

hands, he said, *I am innocent of the blood of this just person*¹. There is yet another witness of the sinlessness of Jesus,—the robber, the first man admitted into Paradise; who rebuked his fellow, and said, *“We receive the due reward of our deeds; but this man hath done nothing amiss*²; for we were present, both thou and I, at His judgment.”

4. Jesus then really suffered for all men; for the Cross was no illusion³, otherwise our redemption is an illusion also. His death was not a mere show⁴, for then is our salvation also fabulous. If His death was but a show, they were true who said, *We remember that that deceiver said, while He was yet alive, After three days I rise again*⁵. His Passion then was real: for He was really crucified, and we are not ashamed thereof; He was crucified, and we deny it not, nay, I rather glory to speak of it. For though I should now deny it, here is Golgotha to confute me, near which we are now assembled; the wood of the Cross confutes me, which was afterwards distributed piecemeal from hence to all the world⁶. I confess the Cross, because I know of the Resurrection; for if, after being crucified, He had remained as He was, I had not perchance confessed it, for I might have concealed both it and my Master; but now that the Resurrection has followed the Cross, I am not ashamed to declare it.

5. Being then in the flesh like others, He was crucified, but not for the like sins. For He was not led to death for covetousness, since He was a Teacher of poverty; nor was He condemned for concupiscence, for He Himself says

plainly, *Whosoever shall look upon a woman to lust after her, hath committed adultery with her already*⁷; not for smiting or striking hastily, for He turned the other cheek also to the smiter; not for despising the Law, for He was the fulfiller of the Law; not for reviling a prophet, for it was Himself who was proclaimed by the Prophets; not for defrauding any of their hire, for He ministered without reward and freely; not for sinning in words, or deeds, or thoughts, *He who did no sin, neither was guile found in His mouth; who when He was reviled, reviled not again; when He suffered, threatened not*⁸; *who came to His passion, not unwillingly, but willing; yea, if any dissuading Him say even now, Be it far from Thee, Lord, He will say again, Get thee behind Me, Satan*⁹.

6. And wouldst thou be persuaded that He came to His passion willingly? others, who foreknow it not, die unwillingly; but He spoke before of His passion: *Behold, the Son of man is betrayed to be crucified*¹⁰. But knowest thou wherefore this Friend of man shunned not death? It was lest the whole world should perish in its sins. *Behold, we go up to Jerusalem, and the Son of man shall be betrayed, and shall be crucified*¹¹; and again, *He stedfastly set His face to go to Jerusalem*¹². And wouldst thou know certainly, that the Cross is a glory to Jesus? Hear His own words, not mine. Judas had become ungrateful to the Master of the house, and was about to betray Him. Having but just now gone forth from the table, and drunk His cup of blessing, in return for that drought of salvation he sought to shed righteous blood. *He who did eat of His bread, was lifting up his heel against Him*¹³; his hands were but lately receiving the blessed gifts¹⁴, and presently for the wages of betrayal he was plotting His death. And being reprov'd, and having heard that word, *Thou hast said*¹⁵, he again went out: then said Jesus, *The hour is come, that the Son of man should be glorified*¹⁶. Seest thou how He knew the Cross to be His proper glory? What then, is Esaias not ashamed of being sawn asunder¹⁷, and shall Christ be ashamed of dying for the world? *Now is the Son of man glorified*¹⁸. Not that He was without glory before: for He was *glorified with the glory which was before the foundation of the world*¹⁹. He was ever glorified as God; but now He was to be glorified in wearing the Crown of His patience. He gave not up His life by compulsion, nor was He put to death by murderous violence, but of His own accord. Hear what He says: *I have power to lay down My life, and I have power to take it again*²⁰: I yield it of My own choice to My enemies; for unless I chose, this could

¹[Matt. xxvii. 24.](#)

²[Luke xxiii. 41.](#) Cf. Cat. xiii. 30, 31. The Benedictine Editor remarks, "We know not whence Cyril took the notion that the two robbers were present at the trial of Jesus." He may have inferred from the words ἐν τῷ αὐτῷ κρίματι that the sentence of crucifixion was pronounced on them at the same time as on Jesus.

³δόκησις. Cf. Ignat. *Smyrn.* § 2: "He suffered truly, as also He raised Himself truly: not as certain unbelievers say, that He suffered in semblance (τὸ δοκεῖν αὐτὸν πεπονθέναι)." See § 37, below.

⁴φαντασιώδης. Athanas. c. *Apollinar.* § 3: "Supposing the exhibition and the endurance of the Passion to be a mere show (φαντασίαν)."

⁵[Matt. xxvii. 63.](#)

⁶Cf. iv. 10; x. 19.

⁷[Matt. v. 28.](#)

⁸[1 Pet. ii. 22, 23.](#)

⁹[Matt. xvi. 22, 23.](#)

¹⁰[Matt. 26.2.](#)

¹¹[Matt. 20.18.](#)

¹²[Luke ix. 5.](#)

¹³[Ps. xli. 9.](#)

¹⁴“τὰς εὐλογίας. The word has this meaning in Chrysostom and Cyril of Alexandria also; afterwards it came to signify consecrated bread, distinct from that of the Eucharist. Vid. Bingham, *Antiq.* xv. 4, § 3.” (R.W.C.)

The custom of sending the bread of the Eucharist was forbidden in the latter part of the 4th century by the Synod of Laodicea, Canon 14: “At Easter the Host shall no more be sent into foreign dioceses as *eulogiae*.” Bp. Hefele (*Councils* II. p. 308) says—“It was a custom in the ancient Church, not indeed to consecrate, but to bless those of the several breads of the same form laid on the altar which were not needed for the Communion, and to employ them partly for the maintenance of the Clergy, and partly for distributing them to those of the faithful who did not communicate at the Mass.” See Eusebius (*Hist. Eccles.* V. 24), with the note thereon in this Series.

¹⁵[Matt. xxvi. 25.](#)

¹⁶[John xii. 23.](#)

¹⁷See Cat. ii. 14, note 4.

¹⁸[John xiii. 31.](#)

¹⁹[John 17.5.](#)

²⁰[John 10.18.](#)

84

not be. He came therefore of His own set purpose to His passion, rejoicing in His noble deed, smiling at the crown, cheered by the salvation of mankind; not ashamed of the Cross, for it was to save the world. For it was no common man who suffered, but God in man's nature, striving for the prize of His patience.

7. But the Jews contradict this¹, ever ready, as they are, to cavil, and backward to believe; so that for this cause the Prophet just now read says, *Lord, who hath believed our report*²? Persians believe³, and Hebrews believe not; *they shall see, to whom He was not spoken of, and they that have not heard shall understand*⁴, while they who study these things shall set at nought what they study. They speak against us, and say, “Does the Lord then suffer? What? Had men's hands power over His sovereignty?” Read the Lamentations; for in those Lamentations, Jeremias, lamenting you, wrote what is worthy of lamentations. He saw your destruction, he beheld your downfall, he bewailed Jerusalem which then was; for that *which now is*⁵ shall not be bewailed; for that Jerusalem crucified the Christ, but that *which now is* worships Him. Lamenting then he says, *The breath of our countenance, Christ the Lord was taken in our corruptions*⁶. Am I then stating views of my own? Behold he testifies of the Lord Christ seized by men. And what is to follow from this? Tell me, O Prophet. He says, *Of whom we said, Under His shadow we shall live among the nations*⁷. For he signifies that the grace of life is no longer to dwell in Israel, but among the Gentiles.

8. But since there has been much gainsaying by them, come, let me, with the help of your prayers, (as the shortness of the time may allow,) set forth by the grace of the Lord some few testimonies concerning the Passion. For the things concerning Christ are all put into writing, and nothing is doubtful, for nothing is without a text. All are inscribed on the monuments of the Prophets; clearly written, not on tablets of stone, but by the Holy Ghost. Since then thou hast heard the Gospel speaking concerning Judas, oughtest thou not to receive the testimony to it? Thou hast heard that He was pierced in the side by a spear; oughtest thou not to see whether this also is written? Thou hast heard that He was crucified in a garden; oughtest thou not to see whether this also is written? Thou hast heard that He was sold for thirty pieces of silver; oughtest thou not to learn what prophet spake this? Thou hast heard that He was given vinegar to drink; learn where this also is written. Thou hast heard that His body was laid in a rock, and that a stone was set over it; oughtest thou not to receive this testimony also from the prophet? Thou hast heard that He was crucified with robbers; oughtest thou not to see whether this also is written? Thou hast heard that He was buried; oughtest thou not to see whether the circumstances of His burial are anywhere accurately written? Thou hast heard that He rose again; oughtest thou not to see whether we mock thee in teaching these things? For *our speech and our preaching is not in persuasive words of man's wisdom*⁸. We stir

now no sophisticated contrivances; for these become exposed; we do not conquer words with words⁹, for these come to an end; but *we preach Christ Crucified*¹⁰, who has already been preached aforetime by the Prophets. But do thou, I pray, receive the testimonies, and seal them in thine heart. And, since they are many, and the rest of our time is narrowed into a short space, listen now to a few of the more important as time permits; and having received these beginnings, be diligent and seek out the remainder. Let not thine hand be only stretched out to receive, but let it be also ready to work¹¹. God gives all things freely. *For if any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God who giveth*¹², and he shall receive. May He through your prayer grant utterance to us who speak, and faith to you who hear.

9. Let us then seek the testimonies to the Passion of Christ: for we are met together, not now to make a speculative exposition of the Scriptures, but rather to be certified of the things which we already believe. Now thou hast received from me first the testimonies concerning the coming of Jesus; and concerning His walking on the sea, for it is written, *Thy way is in the sea*¹³. Also concerning divers

¹There is so close a resemblance between the remainder of this Lecture and the explanation of the same Article of the Creed by Rufinus, that "I have no doubt," says the Benedictine Editor, "that Rufinus drew from Cyril's fountains." Cf. *Rufin. de Symbolo*, § 19, *sqq.*

²[Isa. lii. 15.](#)

³Cf. [Acts ii. 9](#): *Parthians and Medes and Elamites*. These Jewish converts of the day of Pentecost would naturally be the first heralds of the Gospel in their respective countries. On the dispersion of the Apostles, "Parthia, according to tradition, was allotted to Thomas as his field of labour" (Euseb. *Hist. Eccl.* III. 1; cf. I. 13). An earlier notice of the tradition is found in the *Clementine Recognitions*, L. IX. c. 29, where the Pseudo-Clement professes to have received a letter from "Thomas, who is preaching the Gospel among them."

⁴[Rom. xv. 21](#), quoted from Isaiah, *u s.*

⁵[Gal. iv. 25.](#)

⁶[Lam. iv. 20](#): *The breath of our nostrils, the anointed of the Lord, was taken in their pits.*

⁷[Lam. 4.20.](#)

⁸[1 Cor. ii. 4](#). The simple style of the New Testament is defended by Origen, *c. Celsus*, iii. 68, and in many other passages.

⁹Cyril alludes to the same proverb in the *Homily on the Paralytic*, c. 14: "Word resists word, but a deed is irresistible." The Jerusalem Editor refers to Gregory Nazianzen (*Tom. II. p. 596*): Δόγῳ παλαίει πᾶς λόγος.

¹⁰[1 Cor. i. 23.](#)

¹¹[Ecclesiasticus 4.31](#): *Let not thine hand be stretched out to receive, and shut when thou shouldest repay.* The passage is quoted in the *Didaché*, c. iv., *Barnab. Epist.* c. xix., and *Constit. Apost.* VII. 11.

¹²[James i. 5.](#)

¹³[Ps. lxxvii. 19](#). The Benedictine Editor, with no authority but the Latin version by Grodecq, inserts a quotation of [Job ix. 8](#): *Who walketh on the sea, as on a pavement.* Cf. xi. 23.

cures thou hast on another occasion received testimony. Now therefore I begin from whence the Passion began. Judas was the traitor, and he came against Him, and stood, speaking words of peace, but plotting war.

Concerning him, therefore, the Psalmist says, *My friends and My neighbours drew near against Me, and stood¹*. And again, *Their words were softer than oil, yet be they spears²*. *Hail, Master³*; yet he was betraying his Master to death; he was not abashed at His warning, when He said, *Judas, betrayest thou the Son of Man with a kiss⁴*? for what He said to him was just this, Recollect thine own name; Judas means *confession⁵*; thou hast covenanted, thou hast received the money, make confession quickly. *O God, pass not over My praise in silence; for the mouth of the wicked, and the mouth of the deceitful, are opened against Me; they have spoken against Me with a treacherous tongue, they have compassed Me about also with words of hatred⁶*. But that some of the chief-priests also were present, and that He was put in bonds before the gates of the city, thou hast heard before, if thou rememberest the exposition of the Psalm, which has told the time and the place; how *they returned at evening, and hungered like dogs, and encompassed the city⁷*.

10. Listen also for the thirty pieces of silver. *And I will say to them, If it be good in your sight, give me my price, or refuse⁸*, and the rest. One price is owing to Me from you for My healing the blind and lame, and I receive another; for thanksgiving, dishonour, and for worship, insult. Seest thou how the Scripture foresaw these things? *And they weighed for My price thirty pieces of silver⁹*. How exact the prophecy! how great and unerring the wisdom of the Holy Ghost! For he said, not ten, nor twenty, but thirty, exactly as many as there were. Tell also what becomes of this price, O Prophet! Does he who received it keep it? or does he give it back? and after he has given it back, what becomes of it? The Prophet says then, *And I took the thirty pieces of silver, and cast them into the house of the Lord, into the foundry¹⁰*. Compare the Gospel with the Prophecy: *Judas, it says, repented himself, and cast down the pieces of silver in the temple, and departed¹¹*.

11. But now I have to seek the exact solution of this seeming discrepancy. For they who make light of the prophets, allege that the Prophet says on the one hand, *And I cast them into the house of the Lord, into the foundry*, but the Gospel on the other hand, *And they gave them for the potter's field¹²*. Hear then how they are both true. For those conscientious Jews forsooth, the high-priests of that time, when they saw that Judas repented and said, *I have sinned, in that I have betrayed innocent blood*, reply, *What is that to us, see thou to that¹³*. Is it then nothing to you, the crucifiers? but shall he who received and restored the price of murder see to it, and shall ye the murderers not see to it? Then they say among themselves, *It is not lawful to cast them into the treasury, because it is the price of blood¹⁴*. Out of your own mouths is your condemnation; if the price is polluted, the deed is polluted also: but if thou art fulfilling righteousness in crucifying Christ, why receivest thou not the price of it? But the point of iniquity is this: how is there no disagreement, if the Gospel says, *the potter's field*, and the Prophet, *the foundry*? Nay, but not only people who are goldsmiths, or brass-founders, have a foundry, but potters also have foundries for their clay. For they sift off the fine and rich and useful earth from the gravel, and separate from it the mass of the refuse matter, and temper the clay first with water, that they may work it with ease into the forms intended. Why then wonderest thou that the Gospel says plainly *the potter's field*, whereas the Prophet spoke his prophecy like an enigma, since prophecy is in many places enigmatical?

12. They bound Jesus, and brought Him into the hall of the High-priest. And wouldest thou learn and know that this also is written? Esaias says, *Woe unto their soul, for they have taken evil counsel against themselves, saying, Let us bind the Just, for He is troublesome to us¹⁵*. And truly, *Woe unto their soul!* Let us see how Esaias was sawn asunder, yet after this the people was restored. Jeremias was cast into the mire of the cistern, yet was the wound of the Jews healed; for the sin was less, since it was against man. But when the Jews sinned, not against man, but against God in man's nature, *Woe unto their soul!—Let us bind the Just*; could He not then set Himself free, some one will say; He, who freed Lazarus from the bonds of death on the fourth day, and loosed Peter

¹Ps. xxxviii. 11.

²Psa. 55.21.

³Matt. xxvi. 49.

⁴Luke xxii. 48.

⁵Cf. Phil. Jud. *de Plantatione Noë*, II § 33: "And his name was called Judah, which being interpreted is "confession to the Lord." In [Gen. xlix. 8](#) the name is differently interpreted: "Judah, thou art he whom thy brethren shall praise." The root has both senses "to confess," and "to praise," which are closely allied since to "confess" is to

“give God the glory” ([Josh. vii. 19](#)).

⁶[Ps. cix. 1-3](#).

⁷[Ps. lix. 6](#). The exposition was probably given in a sermon preached to the whole congregation, not in these Lectures.

⁸[Zech. xi. 12](#).

⁹[Zech. 11.12](#).

¹⁰[Zech. 11.13](#).

¹¹[Matt. xxvii. 3, 5](#).

¹²[Matt. xxvii. 3, 7](#).

¹³[Matt. 5.4](#).

¹⁴[Matt. 5.6](#).

¹⁵[Isa. iii. 9](#): (R.V.) *they have rewarded evil unto themselves. Say ye of the righteous, that it shall be well with him!* In the Septuagint, from which Cyril quotes, there is an evident interpolation of [Wisdom ii. 12](#): *Let us lie in wait for the righteous; because he is not for our turn* (δύσχηστος, as in Cyril).

86

from the iron bands of a prison? Angels stood ready at hand, saying, *Let us burst their bands in sunder*¹; but they hold back, because their Lord willed to undergo it. Again, He was led to the judgment-seat before the Elders; thou hast already the testimony to this, *The Lord Himself will come into judgment with the ancients of His people, and with the princes thereof*².

13. But the High-priest having questioned Him, and heard the truth, is wroth; and the wicked officer of wicked men smites Him; and the countenance, which had shone as the sun, endured to be smitten by lawless hands. Others also come and spit on the face of Him, who by spittle had healed the man who was blind from his birth. *Do ye thus requite the Lord? This people is foolish and unwise*³. And the Prophet greatly wondering, says, *Lord, who hath believed our report*⁴? for the thing is incredible, that God, the Son of God, and *the Arm of the Lord*⁵, should suffer such things. But that they who are being saved may not disbelieve, the Holy Ghost writes before, in the person of Christ, who says, (for He who then spake these things, was afterward Himself an actor in them,) *I gave My back to the scourges; (for Pilate, when he had scourged Him, delivered Him to be crucified*⁶; *) and My cheeks to smittings; and My face I turned not away from the shame of spittings; saying, as it were, “Though knowing before that they will smite Me, I did not even turn My cheek aside; for how should I have nerved My disciples against death for truth’s sake, had I Myself dreaded this?” I said. He that loveth his life shall lose it*⁷: if I had loved My life, how was I to teach without practising what I taught? First then, being Himself God, He endured to suffer these things at the hands of men; that after this, we men, when we suffer such things at the hands of men for His sake, might not be ashamed. Thou seest that of these things also the prophets have clearly written beforehand. Many, however, of the Scripture testimonies I pass by for want of time, as I said before; for if one should exactly search out all, not one of the things concerning Christ would be left without witness.

14. Having been bound, He came from Caiaphas to Pilate,—is this too written? yes; *And having bound Him, they led Him away as a present to the king of Jarim*⁸. But here some sharp hearer will object, “Pilate was not a king,” (to leave for a while the main parts of the question,) “how then having bound Him, led they Him as a present to the king?” But read thou the Gospel; *When Pilate heard that He was of Galilee, he sent Him to Herod*⁹; for Herod was then king, and was present at Jerusalem. And now observe the exactness of the Prophet; for he says, that He was sent as a present; for *the same day Pilate and Herod were made friends together, for before they were at enmity*¹⁰. For it became Him who was on the eve of making peace between earth and heaven, to make the

very men who condemned Him the first to be at peace; for the Lord Himself was there present, *who reconciles¹¹ the hearts of the princes of the earth*. Mark the exactness of the Prophets, and their true testimony.

15. Look with awe then at the Lord who was judged. He suffered Himself to be led and carried by soldiers. Pilate sat in judgment, and He who sitteth on the right hand of the Father, stood and was judged¹². The people whom He had redeemed from the land of Egypt, and oftentimes from other places, shouted against Him, *Away with Him, away with Him, crucify Him¹³*. Wherefore, O ye Jews? because He healed your blind? or because He made your lame to walk, and bestowed His other benefits? So that the Prophet in amazement speaks of this too, *Against whom have ye opened your mouth, and against whom have ye let loose your tongue¹⁴*? and the Lord Himself says in the Prophets, *Mine heritage became unto Me as a lion in the forest; it gave its voice against Me; therefore have I hated it¹⁵*. I have not refused them, but they have refused Me; in consequence thereof I say, *I have forsaken My house¹⁶*.

16. When He was judged, He held His peace; so that Pilate was moved for Him, and said, *Hearest Thou not what these witness against Thee¹⁷*? Not that He knew Him who was judged, but he feared his own wife's dream which had been reported to him. And Jesus held His peace. The Psalmist says, *And I became as a man that heareth not; and in whose mouth are no reproofs¹⁸*; and again, *But I was as a deaf man and heard not; and as a dumb man that openeth not his mouth¹⁹*. Thou

¹[Ps. ii. 3.](#)

²[Isa. iii. 14.](#)

³[Deut. xxxii. 6.](#)

⁴[Isa. liii. 1.](#)

⁵[Isa. 53.1.](#)

⁶[Isa. i. 6.](#); [Matt. xxvii. 26.](#)

⁷[John xii. 25.](#)

⁸[Hosea x. 6.](#) (R.V.) *It also shall be carried unto Assyria for a present to king Jareb*. This passage is applied in the same manner to [Luke xxiii. 7](#) by Justin M. (*Tryph.* § 103), Tertullian (*c. Marcion.* iv. 42), and Rufinus (*de Symbolo*, § 21), who adds,—“And rightly does the Prophet add the name ‘Jarim,’ which means ‘a wild vine,’ for Herod was... a wild vine, i.e. of an alien stock.” For the various interpretations of the name see the Commentaries on [Hosea v. 13](#), and x. 6; Schrader, *Cuneiform Inscriptions*, II. § 439, Driver, *Introduction to O. T. Literature*, p. 283.

⁹[Luke xxiii. 6, 7.](#)

¹⁰[Luke 23.12.](#)

¹¹[Job xii. 24.](#) (R.V.) *He taketh away the heart of the chiefs of the people of the earth*. The rendering “who reconciles” (ὁ διαλλάσσω, Sept.) is forbidden by the context.

¹²Some MSS. have ἡνεσχετο or ἡνείχετο, “He submitted to stand.”

¹³[Josh. xix. 15.](#)

¹⁴[Isa. lvii. 4.](#)

¹⁵[Jer. xii. 8.](#)

¹⁶[Jer. 5.7.](#)

¹⁷[Matt. xxvii. 13.](#)

¹⁸[Ps. xxxviii. 14.](#)

¹⁹[Psa. 5.13.](#)

87

hast before heard concerning this¹, if thou rememberest.

17. But the soldiers who crowd around mock Him, and their Lord becomes a sport to them, and upon their Master they make jests. *When they looked on Me, they shook their heads*². Yet the figure of kingly state appears; for though in mockery, yet they bend the knee. And the soldiers before they crucify Him, put on Him a purple robe, and set a crown on His head; for what though it be of thorns? Every king is proclaimed by soldiers; and Jesus also must in a figure be crowned by soldiers; so that for this cause the Scripture says in the Canticles, *Go forth, O ye daughters of Jerusalem, and look upon King Solomon in the crown wherewith His mother crowned Him*³. And the crown itself was a mystery; for it was a remission of sins, a release from the curse.

18. Adam received the sentence, *Cursed is the ground in thy labours; thorns and thistles shall it bring forth to thee*⁴. For this cause Jesus assumes the thorns, that He may cancel the sentence; for this cause also was He buried in the earth, that the earth which had been cursed might receive the blessing instead of a curse. At the time of the sin, they clothed themselves with fig-leaves; for this cause Jesus also made the fig-tree the last of His signs. For when about to go to His passion, He curses the fig-tree, not every fig-tree, but that one alone, for the sake of the figure; saying, *No more let any man eat fruit of thee*⁵; let the doom be cancelled. And because they aforetime clothed themselves with fig-leaves, He came at a season when food was not wont to be found on the fig-tree. Who knows not that in winter-time the fig-tree bears no fruit, but is clothed with leaves only? Was Jesus ignorant of this, which all knew? No, but though He knew, yet He came as if seeking; not ignorant that He should not find, but shewing that the emblematical curse extended to the leaves only.

19. And since we have touched on things connected with Paradise, I am truly astonished at the truth of the types. In Paradise was the Fall, and in a Garden was our Salvation. From the Tree came sin, and until the Tree sin lasted. *In the evening, when the Lord walked in the Garden, they hid themselves*⁶; and in the evening the robber is brought by the Lord into Paradise. But some one will say to me, "Thou art inventing subtleties; shew me from some prophet the Wood of the Cross; except thou give me a testimony from a prophet, I will not be persuaded. Hear then from Jeremias, and assure thyself; *I was like a harmless lamb led to be slaughtered; did I not know it*⁷? (for in this manner read it as a question, as I have read it; for He who said, *Ye know that after two days comes the passover, and the Son of Man is betrayed to be crucified*⁸, did He not know?) *I was like a harmless lamb led to be slaughtered; did I not know it?* (but what sort of lamb? let John the Baptist interpret it, when he says, Behold the Lamb of God, that taketh away the sin of the world⁹.) *They devised against Me a wicked device, saying*¹⁰—(He who knows the devices, knew He not the result of them? And what said they?)—*Come, and let us place a beam upon His bread*¹¹—(and if the Lord reckon thee worthy, thou shalt hereafter learn, that His body according to the Gospel bore the figure of bread;)—*Come then, and let us place a beam upon His bread, and cut Him off out of the land of the living;*—(life is not cut off, why labour ye for nought?)—*And His name shall be remembered no more.* Vain is your counsel; for *before the sun His Name*¹² abideth in the Church. And that it was Life, which hung on the Cross, Moses says, weeping, *And thy life shall be hanging before thine eyes; and thou shalt be afraid day and night, and thou shalt not trust thy life*¹³. And so too, what was just now read as the text, *Lord, who hath believed our report?*

20. This was the figure which Moses completed by fixing the serpent to a cross, that whoso had been bitten by the living serpent, and looked to the brasen serpent, might be saved by believing¹⁴. Does then the brazen serpent save when crucified, and shall not the Son of God incarnate save when crucified also? On each occasion life comes by means of wood. For in the time

¹"Perhaps in some Homily" (Ben. Ed.).

²[Ps. cix. 25.](#)

³[Song of Sol. 3.11.](#)

⁴[Gen. iii. 17, 18.](#) By mistaking one letter in the Hebrew, the Seventy give the meaning “in thy labours” instead of “for thy sake.”

⁵[Mark xi. 1.](#)

⁶[Gen. iii. 8.](#)

⁷[Jer. xi. 19:](#) *I was like a tame (R.V. gentle) lamb that is led to the slaughter; and I knew not that they had devised devices against me.* Cyril's interrogative rendering is not admissible.

⁸[Matt. xxvi. 2.](#)

⁹[John i. 29.](#)

¹⁰[Jer. xi. 19.](#)

¹¹[Jer. 11.19.](#) R.V. *Let us destroy the tree with the fruit thereof.* The word rendered *fruit* is literally *bread*. The phrase is evidently proverbial. The Hebrew word which means “destroy” is misinterpreted by ἐμβάλωμεν in the Greek. Hence arose the fanciful application of the passage to the cross laid on the body of Christ to be borne by Him. Justin M. (*Tryph.* lxxii.) charges the Jews with having recently cut out the passage because of the supposed reference to Christ. Tertullian (*adv. Judæos*, c. 10) writes: “Of course on His body that ‘wood’ was put; for so Christ has revealed, calling His body ‘bread.’” He gives the same interpretation elsewhere (*adv. Marcion.* III. 19; IV. 40). Cf. Cyprian (*Testimonia ad Quirinum*, Lib. II. 15); Athanas. (*de Incarn.* § 33).

¹²[Ps. lxxii. 17.](#)

¹³[Deut. xxviii. 66.](#)

¹⁴[Num. xxi. 9; John iii. 14.](#) The Jerusalem Editor asks, “How did Moses complete the figure by fixing the serpent to a cross? First he set up the wood and fixed it in the earth as a post: then by putting the brazen serpent athwart (πλαγίως, he formed a figure of the Cross.” Cf. Barnab. *Epist.* c. xii.; Justin M. (*Apol.* i. c. 60); Iren. (*Hæres.* IV. c. 2); Tertull. *adv. Judæos*, c. 10).

88

of Noe the preservation of life was by an ark of wood. In the time of Moses the sea, on beholding the emblematical rod, was abashed at him who smote it; is then Moses' rod mighty, and is the Cross of the Saviour powerless? But I pass by the greater part of the types, to keep within measure. The wood in Moses' case sweetened the water; and from the side of Jesus the water flowed upon the wood.

21. The beginning of signs under Moses was blood and water; and the last of all Jesus' signs was the same. First, Moses changed the river into blood; and Jesus at the last gave forth from His side water with blood. This was perhaps on account of the two speeches, his who judged Him, and theirs who cried out against Him; or because of the believers and the unbelievers. For Pilate said, *I am innocent* and washed his hands in water; they who cried out against Him said, *His blood be upon us*¹: there came therefore these two out of His side; the water, perhaps, for him who judged Him; but for them that shouted against Him the blood. And again it is to be understood in another way; the blood for the Jews, and the water for the Christians: for upon them as plotters came the condemnation from the blood; but to thee who now believest, the salvation which is by water. For nothing has been done without a meaning. Our fathers who have written comments have given another reason of this matter. For since in the Gospels the power of salutary Baptism is twofold, one which is granted by means of water to the illuminated, and a second to holy martyrs, in persecutions, through their own blood, there came out of that saving Side blood and water², to confirm the grace of the confession made for Christ, whether in baptism, or on

occasions of martyrdom. There is another reason also for mentioning the Side. The woman, who was formed from the side, led the way to sin; but Jesus who came to bestow the grace of pardon on men and women alike, was pierced in the side for women, that He might undo the sin.

22. And whoever will inquire, will find other reasons also; but what has been said is enough, because of the shortness of the time, and that the attention of my hearers may not become sated. And yet we never can be tired of hearing concerning the crowning of our Lord, and least of all in this most holy Golgotha. For others only hear, but we both see and handle. Let none be weary; take thine armour against the adversaries in the cause of the Cross itself; set up the faith of the Cross as a trophy against the gainsayers. For when thou art going to dispute with unbelievers concerning the Cross of Christ, first make with thy hand the sign of Christ's Cross, and the gainsayer will be silenced. Be not ashamed to confess the Cross; for Angels glory in it, saying, *We know whom ye seek, Jesus the Crucified*¹. Mightest thou not say, O Angel, "I know whom ye seek, my Master?" But, "I," he says with boldness, "I know the Crucified." For the Cross is a Crown, not a dishonour.

23. Now let us recur to the proof out of the Prophets which I spoke of. The Lord was crucified; thou hast received the testimonies. Thou seest this spot of Golgotha! Thou answerest with a shout of praise, as if assenting. See that thou recant not in time of persecution. Rejoice not in the Cross in time of peace only, but hold fast the same faith in time of persecution also; be not in time of peace a friend of Jesus, and His foe in time of wars. Thou receivest now remission of thy sins, and the gifts of the King's spiritual bounty; when war shall come, strive thou nobly for thy King. Jesus, the Sinless, was crucified for thee; and wilt not thou be crucified for Him who was crucified for thee? Thou art not bestowing a favour, for thou hast first received; but thou art returning a favour, repaying thy debt to Him who was crucified for thee in Golgotha. Now Golgotha is interpreted, "the place of a skull." Who were they then, who prophetically named this spot Golgotha, in which Christ the true Head endured the Cross? As the Apostle says, *Who is the Image of the Invisible God*; and a little after, *and He is the Head of the body, the Church*². And again, *The Head of every man is Christ*³; and again, *Who is the Head of all principality and power*⁴. The Head suffered in "the place of the skull." O wondrous prophetic appellation! The very name also reminds thee, saying, "Think not of the Crucified as of a mere man; He is *the Head of all principality and power*. That Head which was crucified is the Head of all power, and has for His Head the Father; *for the Head of the man is Christ, and the Head of Christ is God*⁵."

24. Christ then was crucified for us, who was judged in the night, when it was cold, and therefore a *fire of coals*⁶ was laid. He was crucified at the third hour; *and from the sixth*

¹[Matt. xxvii. 24, 25.](#)

²[John xix. 34.](#) Cf. Cat. iii. 10. Origen (*In Lib. Judic.* Hom. vii. § 2): "It is the Baptism of blood alone that can render us purer than the Baptism of water has done." Cf. Origen (*in Ev. Matt.* Tom. xvi. 6): "If Baptism promises remission of sins, as we have received concerning Baptism in water and the Spirit, and if one who has endured the Baptism of Martyrdom receives remission of sins, then with good reason martyrdom may be called a Baptism." For a summary of the "Patristic Interpretation" of the passage, see Bp. Westcott, *Speaker's Commentary*.)

³[Matt. xxviii. 5.](#)

⁴[Col. i. 15, 18.](#)

⁵[1 Cor. xi. 3.](#)

⁶[Col. ii. 10.](#)

⁷[1 Cor. xi. 3.](#)

⁸[John xviii. 18.](#)

hour there was darkness until the ninth hour¹; but from the ninth hour there was light again. Are these things also written? Let us inquire. Now the Prophet Zacharias says, *And it shall come to pass in that day, that there shall not be light, and there shall be cold and frost one day*; (the cold on account of which Peter warmed himself;) *And that day shall be known unto the Lord*²; (what, knew He not the other days? days are many, but *this is the day* of the Lord's patience, *which the Lord made*³;)—*And that day shall be known unto the Lord, not day, and not night*: what is this dark saying which the Prophet speaks? That day is neither day nor night? what then shall we name it? The Gospel interprets it, by relating the event. It was not day; for the sun shone not uniformly from his rising to his setting, but from the sixth hour till the ninth hour, there was darkness at mid-day. The darkness therefore was interposed; but *God called the darkness night*⁴. Wherefore it was neither day nor night: for neither was it all light, that it should be called day; nor was it all darkness, that it should be called night; but after the ninth hour the sun shone forth. This also the Prophet foretels; for after saying, *Not day, nor night*, he added, *And at evening time it shall be light*⁵. Seest thou the exactness of the prophets? Seest thou the truth of the things which were written aforetime?

25. But dost thou ask exactly at what hour the sun failed⁶? was it the fifth hour, or the eighth, or the tenth? Tell, O Prophet, the exact time thereof to the Jews, who are unwilling to hear; when shall the sun go down? The Prophet Amos answers, *And it shall come to pass in that day, saith the Lord God, that the sun shall go down at noon* (for there was darkness from the sixth hour;) *and the light shall grow dark over the earth in the day*⁷. What sort of season is this, O Prophet, and what sort of day? *And I will turn your feasts into mourning*; for this was done in the days of unleavened bread, and at the feast of the Passover: then afterwards he says, *And I will make Him as the mourning of an Only Son, and those with Him as a day of anguish*⁸; for in the day of unleavened bread, and at the feast, their women were wailing and weeping, and the Apostles had hidden themselves and were in anguish. Wonderful then is this prophecy.

26. But, some one will say, "Give me yet another sign; what other exact sign is there of that which has come to pass? Jesus was crucified; and He wore but one coat, and one cloak: now His cloak the soldiers shared among themselves, having rent it into four; but His coat was not rent, for when rent it would have been no longer of any use; so about this lots are cast by the soldiers; thus the one they divide, but for the other they cast lots. Is then this also written? They know, the diligent chanters⁹ of the Church, who imitate the Angel hosts, and continually sing praises to God: who are thought worthy to chant Psalms in this Golgotha, and to say, *They parted My garments among them, and upon My vesture they did cast lots*¹⁰. The "lots" were what the soldiers cast¹¹.

27. Again, when He had been judged before Pilate, He was clothed in red; for there they put on Him a purple robe. Is this also written? Esaias saith, *Who is this that cometh from Edom? the redness of His garments is from Bosor*¹²; (who is this who in dishonor weareth purple? For Bosor has some such meaning in Hebrew¹³.) *Why are Thy garments red, and Thy raiment as from a trodden wine-press?* But He answers and says, *All day long have I stretched forth Mine hands unto a disobedient and gainsaying people*¹⁴.

28. He stretched out His hands on the Cross, that He might embrace the ends of the world; for this Golgotha is the very centre of the earth. It is not my word, but it is a prophet who hath said, *Thou hast wrought salvation in the midst of the earth*¹⁵. He stretched forth human hands, who by His spiritual hands had established the heaven; and they were fastened with nails, that His manhood, which here the sins of men, having been nailed to the tree, and having died, sin might die with it, and we might rise again in righteousness. *For since by one man came death, by One Man came also life*¹⁶; by One Man, the Saviour, dying of His own accord: for remember what He said, *I have power to*

¹[Matt. xxvii. 45.](#)

²[Zech. xiv. 6, 7.](#)

³[Ps. cxviii. 24.](#)

⁴[Gen. i. 5.](#)

⁵[Zech. xiv. 7.](#) Cf. Euseb. (*Dem. Evang.* x. 7): "It was not day, because of the noon-tide darkness: and again it was not night, because of the day which followed upon it, which he represented by a sign in saying, *at evening time*

there shall be light.

⁶ἐξέλιπεν. See Cat. x. 19, note 2. *Acta Pilati*. c. xi.

⁷[Amos viii. 9](#). Cf. Euseb. (*Dem. Ev.* x. 6).

⁸[Amos viii. 10](#).

⁹Synod of Laodicea, Can. xvi. 15: "Besides the appointed singers, who mount the ambo and sing from the book, others shall not sing in the Church." Hefele thinks that this was not intended to forbid the laity to take any part in the Church music, but only to forbid those who were not cantors to take the lead. See Bingham, *Antiquities*, III. c. 7; XIV. c. 1.

¹⁰[Psa. 22.18](#); [John 19.24](#).

¹¹κλῆρος δὲ ἦν ὁ λαχμός. Bishop Hall, *Contemplations*, Book IV. 32, speaks of the soldiers' "barbarous sortitions." The technical term is "sortilege." Cf. *Evang. Pet.* § 4; Justin M. *Dial.* 97.

¹²[Isa. lxiii. 1, 2](#).

¹³Bozrah means a "sheepfold," and is the name of a city in Idumea. Cyril's interpretation rests on a false derivation.

¹⁴[Isa. lxxv. 2](#). "It is a commonplace in patristic literature that the Crucifixion was prefigured by [Isa. lxxv. 2](#)." (Dr. C. Taylor, *Hermas and the Four Gospels*, p. 49.) Cf. Barnab. *Epist.* c. xii.; *Didache* xvi.; Justin M. (*Apolog.* I. c. 35; *Tryph.* cc. 97, 114); Tertull. (*contra Jud.* xii); Irenæ. IV. xxxiii. 12.

¹⁵[Ps. lxxiv. 12](#). The passage does not refer to Palestine especially: "in the midst of the earth" is equivalent to "in the sight of all nations." Cf. *Orac. Sibyll.* viii. 302: "He shall spread out His hands, and span the whole world," quoted by Dr. Taylor, "The Teaching," p. 103.

¹⁶[Rom. v. 12, 17](#).

90

lay down My life, and I have power to take it again¹.

29. But though He endured these things, having come for the salvation of all, yet the people returned Him an evil recompense. Jesus saith, *I thirst*²,—He who had brought forth the waters for them out of the craggy rock; and He asked fruit of the Vine which He had planted. But what does the Vine? This Vine, which was by nature of the holy fathers, but of Sodom by purpose of heart;—(for *their Vine is of Sodom, and their tendrils of Gomorrah*³);—this Vine, when the Lord was athirst, having filled a sponge and put it on a reed, offers Him vinegar. *They gave Me also gall for My meat, and in My thirst, they gave Me vinegar to drink*⁴. Thou seest the clearness of the Prophets' description. But what sort of gall put they into My mouth? *They gave Him, it says, wine mingled with myrrh*⁵. Now myrrh is in taste like gall, and very bitter. Are these things what ye recompense unto the Lord? Are these thy offerings, O Vine, unto thy Master? Rightly did the Prophet Esaias aforetime bewail you, saying, *My well-beloved had a vineyard in a hill in a fruitful place*; and (not to recite the whole) *I waited*, he says, *that it should bring forth grapes*; I thirsted that it should give wine; *but it brought forth thorns*⁶; for thou seest the crown, wherewith I am adorned. What then shall I now decree? I will command the clouds that they rain no rain upon it⁷. For the clouds which are the Prophets were removed from them, and are for the future in the Church; as Paul says, *Let the Prophets speak two or three, and let the others judge*⁸; and again, *God gave in the Church, some, Apostles, and some, Prophets*⁹. Agabus, who bound his own feet and hands, was a prophet.

30. Concerning the robbers who were crucified with Him, it is written, *And He was numbered with the transgressors*¹⁰. Both of them were before this transgressors, but one was so no longer. For the one was a

transgressor to the end, stubborn against salvation; who, though his hands were fastened, smote with blasphemy by his tongue. When the Jews passing by wagged their heads, mocking the Crucified, and fulfilling what was written, *When they looked on Me, they shook their heads*¹¹, he also reviled with them. But the other rebused the reviler; and it was to him the end of life and the beginning of restoration; the surrender of his soul a first share in salvation. And after rebuking the other, he says, *Lord, remember me*¹²; for with Thee is my account. Heed not this man, for the eyes of his understanding are blinded; but remember me. I say not, remember my works, for of these I am afraid. Every man has a feeling for his fellow-traveller; I am travelling with Thee towards death; remember me, Thy fellow-wayfarer. I say not, Remember me now, but, *when Thou comest in Thy kingdom*.

31. What power, O robber, led thee to the light? Who taught thee to worship that despised Man, thy companion on the Cross? O Light Eternal, which gives light to them that are in darkness! Therefore also he justly heard the words, *Be of good cheer*¹³; not that thy deeds are worthy of good cheer; but that the King is here, dispensing favours. The request reached unto a distant time; but the grace was very speedy. *Verily I say unto thee, This day shalt thou be with Me in Paradise*; because to-day thou hast *heard My voice*, and hast not *hardened thine heart*¹⁴. Very speedily I passed sentence upon Adam, very speedily I pardon thee. To him it was said, *In the day wherein ye eat, ye shall surely die*¹⁵; but thou to-day hast obeyed the faith, to-day is thy salvation. Adam by the Tree fell away; thou by the Tree art brought into Paradise. Fear not the serpent; he shall not cast thee out; for he is *fallen from heaven*¹⁶. And I say not unto thee, This day shalt thou depart, but, *This day shalt thou be with Me*. Be of good courage: thou shalt not be cast out. Fear not the flaming sword; it shrinks from its Lord¹⁷. O mighty and ineffable grace! The faithful Abraham had not yet entered, but the robber enters¹⁸! Moses and the Prophets had not yet entered, and the robber enters though a breaker of the law. Paul also wondered at this before thee, saying, *Where sin abounded, there grace did much more abound*¹⁹. They who had borne the heat of the day had not yet entered; and he of the eleventh hour entered. Let none murmur against the goodman of the house, for he says, *Friend, I do thee no wrong; is it not*

¹[John x. 18.](#)

²[John 9.28.](#)

³[Deut. xxxii. 32.](#)

⁴[Ps. lxix. 21.](#)

⁵[Mark xv. 23.](#)

⁶[Isa. v. 1, 2.](#)

⁷[Ib. vIsa. 5.6.](#) Cf. Tertull. *adv. Marcion*. III. c. 23; *contra Jud.* c. 13: "The clouds being celestial benefits which were commanded not to be forthcoming to the house of Israel; for it 'had borne thorns,' whereof that house of Israel had wrought a crown for Christ." *Constitt. Apost.* VI. § 5: "He has taken away from them the Holy Spirit and the prophetic rain, and has replenished His Church with spiritual grace."

⁸[1 Cor. xiv. 29.](#)

⁹[Eph. iv. 11.](#)

¹⁰[Isa. liii. 12.](#)

¹¹[Ps. cix. 25.](#)

¹²[Luke xxiii. 40.](#) ff.

¹³[θαροσει.](#) An addition to the text of [Luke xxiii. 43](#) in Codex Bezae.

¹⁴[Ps. xcv. 7, 8.](#)

¹⁵[Gen. ii. 17.](#)

¹⁶[Luke x. 18.](#)

¹⁷[Gen. iii. 24.](#) S. Ambrose (*Ps. cxix. Sermon. xx. § 12*): "All who desire to return to Paradise must be tried by fire: for not in vain the Scripture saith that when Adam and Eve were driven out of their abode in Paradise, God placed at the gate of Eden a flaming sword which turned every way."

¹⁸Cf. Iren. V. c. 5, § 1; Athan. (*Expos. Fid. c. i.*): "He shewed us....an entrance into Paradise from which Adam was cast out, and into which he entered again by means of the thief." S. Leo (*de Pass. Dom. Sermon. II. c. 1*): "Excedit humanam conditionem ista promissio: nec tam de ligno Crucis, quam de throno editur potestatis."

¹⁹[Rom. v. 20.](#)

91

*lawful for Me to do what I will with Mine own*¹? The robber has a will to work righteousness, but death prevents him; I wait not exclusively for the work, but faith also I accept. I am come who *feed My sheep among the lilies*², I am come to feed them in the gardens. I have *found a sheep that was lost*³, but I lay it on My shoulders; for he believes, since he himself has said, *I have gone astray like a lost sheep*⁴; *Lord, remember me when Thou comest in Thy kingdom.*

32. Of this garden I sang of old to My spouse in the Canticles, and spoke to her thus. *I am come into My garden, My sister, My spouse*⁵; (*now in the place where He was crucified was a garden*⁶;) and what takest Thou thence? *I have gathered My myrrh*; having drunk wine mingled with myrrh, and vinegar, after receiving which, He said, It is finished⁷. For the mystery has been fulfilled; the things that are written have been accomplished; sins are forgiven. For *Christ being come an High-Priest of the good things to come, by the greater and more perfect tabernacle, not made with hands, that is to say, not of this creation, nor yet by the blood of goats and calves, but by His own blood, entered in once for all into the holy place, having obtained eternal redemption; for if the blood of bulls and of goats, and the ashes of an heifer, sprinkling the defiled, sanctifieth to the purifying of the flesh, how much more the blood of Christ*⁸? And again, *Having therefore, brethren, boldness to enter into the holiest by the blood of Jesus, by a new and living way, which He hath consecrated for us, through the veil, that is to say, His flesh*⁹. And because His flesh, this veil, was dishonoured, therefore the typical veil of the temple was rent asunder, as it is written, *And, behold, the veil of the temple was rent in twain from the top to the bottom*¹⁰; for not a particle of it was left; for since the Master said, *Behold, your house is left unto you desolate*¹¹, the house brake all in pieces.

33. These things the Saviour endured, *and made peace through the Blood of His Cross, for things in heaven, and things in earth*¹². For we were enemies of God through sin, and God had appointed the sinner to die. There must needs therefore have happened one of two things; either that God, in His truth, should destroy all men, or that in His loving-kindness He should cancel the sentence. But behold the wisdom of God; He preserved both the truth of His sentence, and the exercise of His loving-kindness. Christ took our sins in *His body on the tree, that we by His death might die to sin, and live unto righteousness*¹³. Of no small account was He who died for us; He was not a literal sheep; He was not a mere man; He was more than an Angel; He was God made man. The transgression of sinners was not so great as the righteousness of Him who died for them; the sin which we committed was not so great as the righteousness which He wrought who laid down His life for us,—who laid it down when He pleased, and took it again when He pleased. And wouldest thou know that He laid not down His life by violence, nor yielded up the ghost against His will? He cried to the Father, saying, *Father, into Thy hands I commend My spirit*¹⁴; I commend it, that I may take it again. And having said these things, *He gave up the ghost*¹⁵; but not for any long time, for He quickly rose again from the dead.

34. The Sun was darkened, because of *the Sun of Righteousness*¹⁶. Rocks were rent, because of the spiritual Rock. Tombs were opened, and the dead arose, because of Him who was *free among the dead*¹⁷; *He sent forth His prisoners out of the pit wherein is no water*¹⁸. Be not then ashamed of the Crucified, but be thou also bold to

say, *He beareth our sins, and endureth grief for us, and with His stripes we are healed*¹⁹. Let us not be unthankful to our Benefactor. And again; *for the transgression of my people was He led to death; and I will give the wicked for His burial, and the rich for His death*²⁰. Therefore Paul says plainly, *that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, and that He was buried, and that He hath risen again the third day according to the Scriptures*²¹.

35. But we seek to know clearly where He has been buried. Is His tomb made with hands? Is it, like the tombs of kings, raised above the ground? Is the Sepulchre made of stones joined together? And what is laid upon it? Tell us, O Prophets, the exact truth concerning His tomb also, where He is laid, and where we shall seek Him? And they say, *Look into the solid rock which ye have hewn*²². Look in and behold. Thou hast in the Gospels *In a sepulchre hewn in stone, which was hewn out of a rock*²³. And what happens next? What kind of door has the sepulchre? Again another Prophet says, *They cut off My life in a dungeon*²⁴, and cast a stone upon Me. I, who am the *Chief corner-stone, the elect, the precious*²⁵, lie for a little time within a stone—I who am a stone of stumbling to the Jews, and of salvation to

¹[Matt. xx. 12 ff.](#)

²[Song of Sol. 6.3.](#)

³[Luke xv. 5, 6.](#)

⁴[Ps. cxix. 176.](#)

⁵[Song of Sol. 5.1.](#)

⁶[John xix. 41.](#)

⁷[John 19.30.](#)

⁸[Heb. ix. 11.](#)

⁹[Heb. 10.19.](#)

¹⁰[Matt. xxvii. 51.](#)

¹¹[Matt. 23.38.](#)

¹²[Col. i. 20.](#)

¹³¹[Pet. ii. 24.](#)

¹⁴[Luke xxiii. 46.](#)

¹⁵[Matt. xxvii. 50.](#)

¹⁶[Mal. iv. 2.](#)

¹⁷[Ps. lxxxviii. 5.](#)

¹⁸[Zech. ix. 11.](#)

¹⁹[Isa. liii. 4, 5.](#)

²⁰[Isa. 53.8,9.](#)

²¹[1 Cor. xv. 3, 4.](#)

²²[Isa. li. 1.](#)

²³[Matt. xxvii. 60; Mark xv. 46; Luke xxiii. 50.](#)

²⁴[Lam. iii. 53:](#) ἐν λάκκῳ, “in a pit,” or “well.” Cf. [Jer. xxxvii. 16.](#)

²⁵[1 Pet. ii. 6.](#)

92

them who believe. *The Tree of life*¹, therefore was planted in the earth, that the earth which had been cursed might enjoy the blessing, and that the dead might be released.

36. Let us not then be ashamed to confess the Crucified. Be the Cross our seal made with boldness by our fingers on our brow, and on everything; over the bread we eat, and the cups we drink; in our comings in, and goings out; before our sleep, when we lie down and when we rise up; when we are in the way, and when we are still². Great is that preservative; it is without price, for the sake of the poor; without toil, for the sick; since also its grace is from God. It is the Sign of the faithful, and the dread of devils: for He *triumphed over them in it, having made a shew of them openly*³; for when they see the Cross they are reminded of the Crucified; they are afraid of Him, who *bruised the heads of the dragon*⁴. Despise not the Seal, because of the freeness of the gift; out for this the rather honour thy Benefactor.

37. And if thou ever fall into disputation and hast not the grounds of proof, yet let Faith remain firm in thee; or rather, become thou well learned, and then silence the Jews out of the prophets, and the Greeks out of their own fables. They themselves worship men who have been thunderstricken⁵: but the thunder when it comes from heaven, comes not at random. If they are not ashamed to worship men thunderstricken and abhorred of God, art thou ashamed to worship the beloved Son of God, who was crucified for thee? I am ashamed to tell the tales about their so-called Gods, and I leave them because of time; let those who know, speak. And let all heretics also be silenced. If any say that the Cross is an illusion, turn away from him. Abhor those who say that Christ was crucified to our fancy⁶ only; for if so, and if salvation is from the Cross, then is salvation a fancy also. If the Cross is fancy, the Resurrection is fancy also; but *if Christ be not risen, we are yet in our sins*⁷. If the Cross is fancy, the Ascension also is fancy; and if the Ascension is fancy, then is the second coming also fancy, and everything is henceforth unsubstantial.

38. Take therefore first, as an indestructible foundation, the Cross, and build upon it the other articles of the faith. Deny not the Crucified; for, if thou deny Him, thou hast many to arraign thee. Judas the traitor will arraign thee first; for he who betrayed Him knows that He was condemned to death by the chief-priests and elders. The thirty pieces of silver bear witness; Gethsemane bears witness, where the betrayal occurred; I speak not yet of the Mount of Olives, on which they were with Him at night, praying. The moon in the night bears witness; the day bears witness, and the sun which was darkened; for it endured not to look on the crime of the conspirators. The fire will arraign thee, by which Peter stood and warmed himself; if thou deny the Cross, the eternal fire awaits thee. I speak hard words, that thou may not experience hard pains. Remember the swords that came against Him in Gethsemane, that thou feel not the eternal sword. The house of Caiaphas⁸ will arraign thee, shewing by its present desolation the power of Him who was erewhile judged there. Yea, Caiaphas himself will rise up against thee in the day of judgment, the very servant will rise up against thee, who smote Jesus with the palm of his hand; they also who bound Him, and they who led Him away. Even Herod shall rise up against thee; and Pilate; as if saying, Why deniest thou Him who was slandered before us by the Jews, and whom we knew to have done no wrong? For I Pilate then washed my hands. The false witnesses shall rise up against thee, and the soldiers who arrayed Him in the purple robe, and set on Him the crown of thorns, and crucified Him in Golgotha, and cast lots for His coat. Simon the Cyrenian will cry out upon thee, who bore the Cross after Jesus.

39. From among the stars there will cry out upon thee, the darkened Sun; among the things upon earth, the Wine mingled with myrrh; among reeds, the Reed; among herbs, the Hyssop; among the things of the sea, the Sponge;

among trees, the Wood of the Cross;—the soldiers, too, as I have said, who nailed Him, and cast lots for His vesture; the soldier who pierced His side with the spear; the women who then were present; the veil of the

¹[Gen. ii. 9; iii. 22](#). Methodius (*Sympos.* ix. c. 3): “He that hath not believed in Christ, nor hath understood that He is the first principle and the Tree of Life, &c.”

²Cf. Cat. iv. 14, note 3; Euseb. (*Dem. Ev.* ix. 14).

³[Col. ii. 15](#).

⁴[Ps. lxxiv. 13](#).

⁵See Cat. vi. 11, note 2.

⁶κατὰ φαντασίαν. Cf. Ignat. *Trall.* 9, 10; Cat. iv. 9; xiii. 4.

⁷[1 Cor. xv. 17](#).

⁸The house of Caiaphas and Pilate’s Prætorium (§ 41), and Mount Zion itself (Cat. xvi. 18), on which they both stood are described by Cyril as being in his time ruined and desolate. Eusebius (*Dem. Ev.* VIII. 406), referring to the prophecy of Micah ([Micah 3.12](#)), repeated by Jeremiah ([Jer. 26.18](#)), that *Zion shall be plowed as a field, and Jerusalem shall become heaps*, testifies that he had seen with his own eyes the place being ploughed and sown by strangers, and adds that in his own time the stones for both public and private buildings were taken from the ruins. The Bordeaux Pilgrim (333 A.D.) says, “It is evident where the house of Caiaphas the Priest was; and there is still the pillar at which Christ was scourged:” this pillar is described by Jerome (*Ep.* 86) as supporting the portico of the Church which by his time had been built on the spot. Prudentius *circ.* 400 A.D.):—

“Impia blasphemi cecidit domus alta Caiphae....

Vinctus in his Dominus stetit ædibus atque columnæ

Annexus tergum dedit ut servile flagellis.

Perstat adhuc, templumque gerit veneranda columna.”

(Benedictine Editor.)

93

temple then rent asunder; the hall of Pilate, now laid waste by the power of Him who was then crucified; this holy Golgotha, which stands high above us, and shews itself to this day, and displays even yet how because of Christ the rocks were then riven¹; the sepulchre nigh at hand where He was laid; and the stone which was laid on the door, which lies to this day by the tomb; the Angels who were then present; the women who worshipped Him after His resurrection; Peter and John, who ran to the sepulchre; and Thomas, who thrust his hand into His side, and his fingers into the prints of the nails. For it was for our sakes that he so carefully handled Him; and what thou, who wert not there present, wouldest have sought, he being present, by God’s Providence, did seek.

40. Thou hast Twelve Apostles, witnesses of the Cross; and the whole earth, and the world of men who believe on Him who hung thereon. Let thy very presence here now persuade thee of the power of the Crucified. For who now brought thee to this assembly? what soldiers? With what bonds wast thou constrained? What sentence held thee fast here now? Nay, it was the Trophy of salvation, the Cross of Jesus that brought you all together. It was this that enslaved the Persians, and tamed the Scythians; this that gave to the Egyptians, for cats and dogs and their manifold errors, the knowledge of God; this, that to this day heals diseases; that to this day drives away devils, and overthrows the juggleries of drugs and charms.

41. This shall appear again with Jesus from heaven²; for the trophy shall precede the king: that seeing *Him whom they pierced*³, and knowing by the Cross Him who was dishonoured, the Jews may repent and mourn; (but *they shall mourn tribe by tribe*⁴, for they shall repent, when there shall be no more time for repentance;) and that we may glory, exulting in the Cross, worshipping the Lord who was sent, and crucified for us, and worshipping also God His Father who sent Him, with the Holy Ghost: To whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen.

¹Cf. Lucian. Antioch. ap. Rufin. *Hist. Eccl.* ix. c. 6; "Golothana rupes sub patibuli onere disrupta."

²Cf. Cat. xv. 22.

³[Zech. xii. 10.](#)

⁴Ib. v[Zech. 12.12.](#)

94

Lecture XIV.

On the Words, And Rose Again from the Dead on the Third Day, and Ascended into the Heavens, and Sat on the Right Hand of the Father.

[1 COR. XV. 1-4](#)

Now I make known unto you, brethren, the gospel which I preached unto you....that He hath been raised on the third day according to the Scriptures, &c.

*Rejoice, O Jerusalem, and keep high festival, all ye that love Jesus; for He is risen. Rejoice, all ye that mourned before*¹, when ye heard of the daring and wicked deeds of the Jews: for He who was spitefully entreated of them in this place is risen again. And as the discourse concerning the Cross was a sorrowful one, so let the good tidings of the Resurrection bring joy to the hearers. Let mourning be turned into gladness, and lamentation to joy: and let our mouth be filled with joy and gladness, because of Him, who after His resurrection, said *Rejoice*². For I know the sorrow of Christ's friends in these past days; because, as our discourse stopped short at the Death and the Burial, and did not tell the good tidings of the Resurrection, your mind was in suspense, to hear what you were longing for.

Now, therefore, the Dead is risen, He who was *free among the dead*³, and the deliverer of the dead. He who in dishonour wore patiently the crown of thorns, even He arose, and crowned Himself with the diadem of His victory over death.

2. As then we set forth the testimonies concerning His Cross, so come let us now verify the proofs of His Resurrection also: since the Apostle before us⁴ affirms, *He was buried, and has been raised on the third day according to the Scriptures*. As an Apostle, therefore, has sent us back to the testimonies of the Scriptures, it is good that we should get full knowledge of the hope of our salvation; and that we should learn first whether the divine Scriptures tell us the season of His resurrection, whether it comes in summer or in autumn, or after winter; and from what kind of place the Saviour has risen, and what has been announced in the admirable Prophets as the name of the place of the Resurrection, and whether the women, who sought and found Him not, afterwards rejoice at finding Him; in order that when the Gospels are read, the narratives of these holy Scriptures may not be thought fables nor rhapsodies.

3. That the Saviour then was buried, ye have heard distinctly in the preceding discourse, as Isaiah saith, His burial

shall be in peace⁵ : for in His burial He made peace between heaven and earth, bringing sinners unto God: and, *that the righteous is taken out of the way of unrighteousness*⁶ : and, *His burial shall be in peace*: and, *I will give the wicked for His burial*⁷ . There is also the prophecy of Jacob saying in the Scriptures, *He lay down and couched as a lion, and as a lion's whelp*: who shall rouse Him up⁸ ? And the similar passage in Numbers, He couched, He lay down as a lion, and as a lion's whelp⁹ . The Psalm also ye have often heard, which says, *And Thou hast brought me down into the dust of death*¹⁰ . Moreover we took note of the spot, when we quoted the words, *Look unto the rock, which ye have hewn*¹¹ . But now let the testimonies concerning His resurrection itself go with us on our way.

4. First, then, in the 11th Psalm He says, *For the misery of the poor, and the sighing of the needy, now will I arise, saith the Lord*¹² . But this passage still remains doubtful with some: for He often rises up also in anger¹³ , to take vengeance upon His enemies.

Come then to the 15th Psalm, which says distinctly: *Preserve Me, O LORD, for in Thee*

¹[Is. lxvi. 10.](#)

²[Matt. xxviii. 9,](#) "All hail." The usual greeting, Χαίρετε, "Rejoice."

³[Ps. lxxxviii. 5:](#) *Cast off among the dead* (R.V.); *Cast away* (Margin).

⁴ὁ παρών. i.e. in the text. [1 Cor. xv. 4.](#)

⁵[Is. lvii. 2:](#) *He entereth into peace* (R.V.).

⁶[Is. lvii. 1:](#) *that the righteous is taken away from the evil to come* (R.V.).

⁷[Is. liii. 9:](#) *they made His grave with the wicked* (R.V.).

⁸[Gen. xlix. 9.](#)

⁹[Num. xxiv. 9.](#)

¹⁰[Ps. xxii. 15.](#)

¹¹ἐπεσημειωσάμεθα, "noted for ourselves;" Middle Voice. [Is. li. 1:](#) quoted in Cat. xiii. 35.

¹²[Ps. xii. 5.](#)

¹³[Psa. 7.6:](#) "Arise, O Lord, in Thine anger.

*have I put my trust*¹ : and after this, *their assemblies of blood will I not join, nor make mention of their names between my lips*² ; since they have refused me, and chosen Cæsar as their king³ : and also the next words, *I foresaw the LORD alway before Me, because He is at My right hand, that I may not be moved*⁴ : and soon after *Yea and even until night my reins chastened me*⁵ . And after this He says most plainly, *For Thou wilt not leave My soul in hell*⁶ ; *neither wilt Thou suffer Thine Holy One to see corruption*. He said not, neither wilt Thou suffer Thine Holy One to see death, since then He would not have died; but *corruption*, saith He, I see not, and shall not abide in death. *Thou hast made known to Me the ways of life*⁷ . Behold here is plainly preached a life after death. Come also to the 29th Psalm, *I will extol Thee, O LORD, for Thou hast lifted Me up, and hast not made My foes to rejoice over Me*⁸ . What is it that took place? Wert thou rescued from enemies, or wert thou released when about to be

smitten? He says himself most plainly, *O LORD, Thou hast brought up My soul from hell*⁹. There he says, Thou wilt not leave, prophetically: and here he speaks of that which is to take place as having taken place, *Thou hast brought up. Thou hast saved Me from them that go down into the pit*¹⁰. At what time shall the event occur? *Weeping shall continue for the evening, and joy cometh in the morning*¹¹: for in the evening was the sorrow of the disciplines, and in the morning the joy of the resurrection.

5. But wouldst thou know the place also? Again He saith in Canticles, *I went down into the garden of nuts*¹²; for it was a garden where He was crucified¹³. For though it has now been most highly adorned with royal gifts, yet formerly it was a garden, and the signs and the remnants of this remain. *A garden enclosed, a fountain sealed*¹⁴, by the Jews who said, *We remember that that deceiver said while He was yet alive, After three days, I will rise: command, therefore, that the sepulchre be made sure; and further on, So they went, and made the sepulchre sure, sealing the stone with the guard*¹⁵. And aiming well at these, one saith, *and in rest Thou shalt judge them*¹⁶. But who is the fountain that is sealed, or who is interpreted as being a *well-spring of living water*¹⁷? It is the Saviour Himself, concerning whom it is written, *For with Thee is the fountain of life*¹⁸.

6. But what says Zephaniah in the person of Christ to the disciples? *Prepare thyself, be rising at the dawn: all their gleanings is destroyed*¹⁹: the gleanings, that is, of the Jews, with whom there is not a cluster, nay not even a gleanings of salvation left; for their vine is cut down. See how He says to the disciples, *Prepare thyself, rise up at dawn: at dawn expect the Resurrection.*

And farther on in the same context of Scripture He says, *Therefore wait thou for Me, saith the LORD, until the day of My Resurrection at the Testimony*²⁰. Thou seest that the Prophet foresaw the place also of the Resurrection, which was to be surnamed "the Testimony." For what is the reason that this spot of Golgotha and of the Resurrection is not called, like the rest of the Churches, a Church, but a Testimony? Why, perhaps, it was because of the Prophet, who had said, *until the day of My Resurrection at the Testimony.*

7. And who then is this, and what is the sign of Him that rises? In the words of the Prophet that follow in the same context, He says plainly, *For then will I turn to the peoples a language*²¹: since, after the Resurrection, when the Holy Ghost was sent forth the gift of tongues was granted, *that they might serve the Lord under one yoke*²². And what other token is set forth in the same Prophet, that they should serve the LORD *under one yoke*? *From beyond the rivers of Ethiopia they shall bring me offerings*²³. Thou knowest what is written in the Acts, when the Ethiopian eunuch came from beyond the rivers of Ethiopia²⁴. When therefore the Scriptures tell both the time and the peculiarity of the place, when they tell also the signs which followed the Resurrection, have thou henceforward a firm faith in the Resurrection, and let no one stir thee from confessing *Christ risen from the dead*²⁵.

8. Now take also another testimony in the

¹Ps. xvi. 1.

²Psa. 16.4: "their drink-offerings of blood will I not offer." The Psalmist abhors the bloody rites, and the very names of the false gods.

³John xix 15. Cyril applies to the Jews what the Psalmist says concerning those that hasten after another god.

⁴Ps. xvi. 8.

⁵Psa. 16.7. Quoting from memory, Cyril transposes these sentences.

⁶Psa. 16.10. R.V. *in Sheol*, Sept. *in Hades*.

⁷Psa. 16.11.

⁸Psa. 30.1.

⁹[Psa. 30.3](#). R.V. *from Sheol, Sept. from Hades*.

¹⁰[Psa. 30.3](#).

¹¹[Psa. 30.5](#).

¹²[Song of Sol. 4.11](#).

¹³[John xix. 41](#). See Index, *Golgotha*.

¹⁴[Song of Sol. 4.12](#).

¹⁵[Matt. xxvii. 63, 65](#).

¹⁶[Job vii. 18](#):....*try him every moment*. Heb. עִנְךָ “a wink,” as in [Job xxi. 13](#), misinterpreted in both passages by the LXX. as meaning “rest.”

¹⁷[Song of Sol. 4.15](#).

¹⁸[Ps. xxxvi. 9](#).

¹⁹[Zeph. iii. 7](#): *they rose early and corrupted all their doings*. The passage is wholly understood by the Seventy, whom S. Cyril follows.

²⁰[Zeph. iii. 8](#): *until the day that I rise up to the prey*. For דַּעַל, *to the prey*, the LXX. seem to have read דַּעַל, *to the testimony*. About ten years before these Lectures were delivered, Eusebius (*Life of Constantine*, III. c. xxviii.), speaking of the discovery of the Holy Sepulchre, A.D. 326, calls it “a testimony to the Resurrection of the Saviour clearer than any voice could give.”

²¹[Zeph. iii. 9](#): *a pure language*.

²²[Zeph. 3.9](#) *to serve him with one consent* (Marg. *shoulder*).

²³[Zeph. 3.10](#).

²⁴[Acts viii. 27](#).

²⁵[2 Tim. ii. 8](#).

 96

87th Psalm, where Christ speaks in the Prophets, (for He who then spoke came afterwards among us): *O LORD, God of My salvation, I have cried day and night before Thee*, and a little, farther on, *I became as it were a man without help, free among the dead*¹. He said not, *I became a man without help*; but, *as it were a man without help*. For indeed He was crucified not from weakness, but willingly and His Death was not from involuntary weakness. *I was counted with them that go down into the pit*². And what is the token? *Thou hast put away Mine acquaintance far from Me*³ (for the disciples have fled). *Wilt Thou shew wonders to the dead*⁴? Then a little while afterwards: *And unto Thee have I cried, O LORD; and in the morning shall my prayer come before Thee*⁵. Seest thou how they shew the exact point of the Hour, and of the Passion and of the Resurrection?

9. And whence hath the Saviour risen? He says in the Song of Songs: *Rise up, come, My neighbour*⁶: and in what follows, *in a cave of the rock*⁷! A cave of the rock He called the cave which was erewhile before the door of the Saviour's sepulchre, and had been hewn out of the rock itself, as is wont to be done here in front of the sepulchres. For now it is not to be seen, since the outer cave was cut away at that time for the sake of the present

adornment. For before the decoration of the sepulchre by the royal munificence, there was a cave in the front of the rock⁸. But where is the rock that had in it the cave? Does it lie near the middle of the city, or near the walls and the outskirts? And whether is it within the ancient walls, or within the outer walls which were built afterwards? He says then in the Canticles: *in a cave of the rock, close to the outer wall*⁹.

10. At what season does the Saviour rise? Is it the season of summer, or some other? In the same Canticles immediately before the words quoted He says, The winter is past, the rain is past and gone¹⁰; the flowers appear on the earth; the time of the pruning is come¹¹. Is not then the earth full of flowers now, and are they not pruning the vines? Thou seest how he said also that the winter is now past. For when this month Xanthicus¹² is come, it is already spring. And this is the season, the first month with the Hebrews, in which occurs the festival of the Passover, the typical formerly, but now the true. This is the season of the creation of the world: for then God said, Let the earth bring forth herbage of grass, yielding seed after his kind and after his likeness¹³. And now, as thou seest, already every herb is yielding seed. And as at that time God made the sun and moon and gave them courses of equal day (and night), so also a few days since was the season of the equinox.

At that time God said, let us make man after our image and after our likeness¹⁴. And the image he received, but the likeness through his disobedience he obscured. At the same season then in which he lost this the restoration also took place. At the same season as the created man through disobedience was cast out of Paradise, he who believed was through obedience brought in. Our Salvation then took place at the same season as the Fall: when the flowers appeared, and the pruning was come.

11. A garden was the place of His Burial, and a vine that which was planted there: and He hath said, *I am the vine*¹⁵! He was planted therefore in the earth in order that the curse which came because of Adam might be rooted out. The earth was condemned to thorns and thistles: the true Vine sprang up out of the earth, that the saying might be fulfilled, *Truth sprang up out of the earth, and righteousness*

¹Ps. lxxxviii. 1, 4, 5.

²Psa. 88.4.

³Psa. 88.8.

⁴Psa. 88.10.

⁵Psa. 88.13.

⁶Song of Sol. 2.10: *Rise up, my love, my fair one, and come away.*

⁷Song of Sol. 2.14: *in the clefts of the rock.*

⁸See Index, *Sepulchre*.

⁹Song of Sol. 2.14: *in the clefts of the rock, in the secret places of the stairs.* The Revised Version reads, *in the covert of the steep place.*

¹⁰Song of Sol. 2.11. In παρήλαθεν, ἐπορεύθη ἑαυτῷ the LXX. have imitated the pleonastic use of ἑ after verbs of motion, corresponding to our idiom "Go away with you," and to the *Dativus Ethicus* in Greek and Latin. See Gesenius *Lexicon* on this use of ἑ, and Ewald, *Introductory Grammar*, § 217, l. 2.

¹¹Song of Sol. 2.12: *the singing of birds.* The Hebrew word (קָטַץ means either "cutting," as in the LXX. τομή, Symmachus κλαδεύσεως, and R.V. Marg. "pruning," or as in A.V. "singing."

¹²Xanthicus is the name of the sixth month in the Macedonian Calendar, corresponding nearly to the Jewish Nisan (Josephus, *Antiq.* II. xiv. 6), and to the latter part of Lent and Easter. On the tradition that the Creation took place

at this season, see S. Ambrose, *Hexæmeron*, I. c. 4, § 13.

¹³[Gen. i. 11](#): *grass, the herb yielding seed.*

The LXX. give an irregular construction,

Βοτανὴν χόρτου σπεῖρον σπέρμα.

¹⁴[Gen. i. 26](#). "The ancient Church very accurately distinguished between εἰκὼν (*image*) and ὁμοίωσις (*likeness*), and the Greek Church does the same in its Confession. The latter phrase expresses man's destination, which is not to be regarded as carried out at the moment of creation. (Dorner, *System of Christian Doctrine*, E. Tr. II. p. 78). The *image* lies in the permanent capacities of man's nature ([Gen. ix. 6](#); [1 Cor. xi. 7](#); [Jas. iii. 9](#)), the *likeness* in their realisation in moral conformity with God (ὁμοίθειαν Θεοῦ, Ignatius, *Magnes* vi). "The image of God is a comprehensive thing....To this belongs man's intellectual power, his liberty of will, his dominion over the other creatures flowing from the two former. These make up the τὸ οὐσιῶδες, that part of that divine image which is natural and essential to man, and consequently can never be wholly blotted out, defaced, or extinguished, but still remains even in man fallen. But beside these the Church of God hath ever acknowledged, in the first man, certain additional ornaments, and as it were complements of the divine image, such as immortality, grace, holiness, righteousness, whereby man approached more nearly to the similitude and likeness of God. These were (if I may so speak) the lively colours wherein the grace, the beauty, and lustre of the divine image principally consisted; these colours faded, yea, were defaced and blotted out by man's transgression. (Bull, *The State of Man before the Fall*, Vol. ii. p. 114, Ox.). Cf. Iren. (V. vi. § 1; xvi. § 2); Tertullian (*de Baptismo*, c. 5); Clem. Alex. (*Exhort.* c. 12); Origen (c. *Cels.* IV. 30).

¹⁵[John xv. 1](#). The Benedictine Editor has a different punctuation: "and the vine which was planted there hath said, *And I am the Vine.*"

97

*looked down from heaven*¹. And what will He that is buried in the garden say? *I have gathered My myrrh with My spices*: and again, *Myrrh and aloes, with all chief spices*². Now these are the symbols of the burying; and in the Gospels it is said, *The women came unto the sepulchre bringing the spices which they had prepared*³: *Nicodemus also bringing a mixture of myrrh and aloes*⁴. And farther on it is written, *I did eat My bread with My honey*⁵: the bitter before the Passion, and the sweet after the Resurrection. Then after He had risen He entered through closed doors: but they believed not that it was He: for *they supposed that they beheld a spirit*⁶. But He said, *Handle Me and see*. Put your fingers into the print of the nails, as Thomas required. *And while they yet believed not for joy, and wondered, He said unto them, Have ye here anything to eat? And they gave Him a piece of a broiled fish and honeycomb*⁷. Seest thou how that is fulfilled, *I did eat My bread with My honey*.

12. But before He entered through the closed doors, the Bridegroom and Suitor⁸ of souls was sought by those noble and brave women. They came, those blessed ones, to the sepulchre, and sought Him Who had been raised, and the tears were still dropping from their eyes, when they ought rather to have been dancing with joy for Him that had risen. Mary came seeking Him, according to the Gospel, and found Him not: and presently she heard from the Angels, and afterwards saw the Christ. Are then these things also written? He says in the Song of Songs, *On my bed I sought Him whom my soul loved*. At what season? *By night on my bed I sought Him Whom my soul loved*: Mary, it says, *came while it was yet dark*. *On my bed I sought Him by night, I sought Him, and I found Him not*⁹. And in the Gospels Mary says, *They have taken away my Lord, and I know not where they have laid Him*¹⁰. But the Angels being then present cure their want of knowledge; for they said, *Why seek ye the living among the dead*¹¹? He not only rose, but had also the dead with Him when He rose¹². But she knew not, and in her person the Song of Songs said to the Angels, *Saw ye Him Whom my soul loved*? It was but a little that I passed from them (that is, from the two Angels), *until I found Him Whom my soul loved. I held Him, and would not let Him go*¹³.

13. For after the vision of the Angels, Jesus came as His own Herald; and the Gospel says, *And behold Jesus met them, saying, All hail! and they came and took hold of His feet*¹⁴. They took hold of Him, that it might be fulfilled, *I will hold Him, and will not let Him go*. Though the woman was weak in body, her spirit was manful. *Many waters quench not love, neither do rivers drown it*¹⁵; He was dead whom they sought, yet was not the hope of the Resurrection quenched. And the Angel says to them again, *Fear not ye*; I say not to the soldiers, *fear not*, but to

you¹⁶; as for them, let them be afraid, that, taught by experience, they may bear witness and say, *Truly this was the Son of God*¹⁷; but you ought not to be afraid, *for perfect love casteth out fear*¹⁸. Go, tell His disciples that He is risen¹⁹; and the rest. And they depart with joy, yet full of fear; is this also written? yes, the second Psalm, which relates the Passion of Christ, says, *Serve the Lord with fear, and rejoice unto Him with trembling*²⁰;—rejoice, because of the risen Lord; but *with trembling*, because of the earthquake, and the Angel who appeared as lightning.

14. Though, therefore, Chief Priests and Pharisees through Pilate's means sealed the tomb; yet the women beheld Him who was risen. And Esaias knowing the feebleness of the Chief Priests, and the women's strength of faith, says, *Ye women, who come from beholding, come hither*²¹; *for the people hath no understanding*;—the Chief Priests want understanding, while women are eye-witnesses. And when the soldiers came into the city to them, and told them all that had come to pass, they said to them, *Say ye, His disciples came by night, and stole Him away while we slept*²²? Well therefore did Esaias foretell this also, as in their persons, *But tell us, and relate to us another deceit*²³. He who rose again, is up, and for a gift of money they persuade the soldiers; but they persuade not the kings of our time. The soldiers then surrendered the truth for silver; but the kings of this day have, in their piety, built this holy Church of the Resurrection of God our Saviour, inlaid with silver and wrought with gold, in which we are assembled²⁴; and embellished it with the treasures of silver and gold and precious stones. *And if this come to the governor's ears, they say, we will persuade him*²⁵. Yea, though ye persuade the soldiers, yet ye will not persuade the world; for why, as Peter's guards were condemned when he escaped out of the prison, were not

¹[Ps. lxxxv. 11.](#)

²[Song of Sol. 5.1; 4.14.](#) Compare Cat. xiii. 32.

³[Luke xxiv. 1.](#)

⁴[John xix. 39.](#)

⁵[Song of Sol. 6.1:](#) *my honeycomb with my honey.*

⁶[Luke xxiv. 37.](#)

⁷[Luke 24.41.](#)

⁸ὁ θεράπωντής. In connexion with "Bridegroom," and "Him whom my soul loveth" the meaning "Suitor" is more appropriate than "Physician."

⁹[Song of Sol. 3.1; John 20.1.](#)

¹⁰[John xx. 13.](#)

¹¹[Luke xxiv. 5.](#)

¹²[Matt. xxvii. 52.](#)

¹³[Song of Sol. 3.3,4.](#)

¹⁴[Matt. xxviii. 9.](#)

¹⁵[Song of Sol. 8.7.](#)

¹⁶[Matt. xxviii. 5.](#) The emphatic ὑμεῖς is rightly interpreted by Cyril as distinguishing the women from the frightened

sentinels.

¹⁷[Matt. xxvii. 54.](#)

¹⁸[1 John iv. 18.](#)

¹⁹[Matt. xxviii. 7.](#)

²⁰[Ps. ii. 11.](#)

²¹[Isa. xxvii. 11:](#) *The women shall come, and set them on fire.*

²²[Matt. xxviii. 13.](#)

²³[Isa. xxx. 10.](#)

²⁴[Cf. Euseb. \(Life of Const. III. 36.\).](#)

²⁵[Matt. xxxviii. 14.](#)

98

they also who watched Jesus Christ condemned? Upon the former, sentence was pronounced by Herod, for they were ignorant and had nothing to say for themselves; while the latter, who had seen the truth, and concealed it for money, were protected by the Chief Priests. Nevertheless, though but a few of the Jews were persuaded at the time, the world became obedient. They who hid the truth were themselves hidden; but they who received it were made manifest by the power of the Saviour, who not only rose from the dead, but also raised the dead with Himself. And in the person of these the Prophet Osee says plainly, *After two days will He revive us, and in the third day we shall rise again, and shall live in His sight*¹.

15. But since the disobedient Jews will not be persuaded by the Divine Scriptures, but forgetting all that is written gainsay the Resurrection of Jesus, it were good to answer them thus: On what ground, while you say that Eliseus and Elias raised the dead, do you gainsay the Resurrection of our Saviour? Is it that we have no living witnesses now out of that generation to what we say? Well, do you also bring forward witnesses of the history of that time. But that is written;—so is this also written: why then do ye receive the one, and reject the other? They were Hebrews who wrote that history; so were all the Apostles Hebrews: why then do ye disbelieve the Jews²? Matthew who wrote the Gospel wrote it in the Hebrew tongue³; and Paul the preacher was a Hebrew of the Hebrews; and the twelve Apostles were all of Hebrew race: then fifteen Bishops of Jerusalem were appointed in succession from among the Hebrews⁴. What then is your reason for allowing your own accounts, and rejecting ours, though these also are written by Hebrews from among yourselves.

16. But it is impossible, some one will say, that the dead should rise; and yet Eliseus twice raised the dead,—when he was alive, and also when dead. Do we then believe, that when Eliseus was dead, a dead man who was cast upon him and touched him, arose and is Christ not risen? But in that case, the dead man who touched Eliseus, arose, yet he who raised him continued nevertheless dead: but in this case both the Dead of whom we speak Himself arose, and many dead were raised without having even touched Him. For *many bodies of the Saints which slept arose, and they came out of the graves after His Resurrection, and went into the Holy City*⁵, (evidently this city, in which we now are⁶), *and appeared unto many*. Eliseus then raised a dead man, but he conquered not the world; Elias raised a dead man, but devils are not driven away in the name of Elias. We are not speaking evil of the Prophets, but we are celebrating their Master more highly; for we do not exalt our own wonders by disparaging theirs; for theirs also are ours; but by what happened among them, we win credence for our own.

17. But again they say, “A corpse then lately dead was raised by the living; but shew us that one three days dead can possibly arise, and that a man should be buried, and rise after three days.” If we seek for Scripture testimony in proof of such facts, the Lord Jesus Christ Himself supplies it in the Gospels, saying, *For as Jonas was three days and three nights in the whale’s belly; so shall the Son of man be three days and three nights in the heart of*

the earth⁷. And when we examine the story of Jonas, great is the force⁸ of the resemblance. Jesus was sent to preach repentance; Jonas also was sent: but whereas the one fled, not knowing what should come to pass; the other came willingly, to give repentance unto salvation. Jonas was asleep in the ship, and snoring amidst the stormy sea; while Jesus also slept, the sea, according to God's providence⁹, began to rise, to shew in the sequel the might of Him who slept. To the one they said, *Why art thou snoring? Arise, call upon thy God, that God may save us*¹⁰; but in the other case they say unto the Master, *Lord, save us*¹¹. Then they said, *Call upon thy God; here they say, save Thou*. But the one says, *Take me, and cast me into the sea; so shall the sea be calm unto you*¹²; the other, *Himself rebuked the winds and the sea, and there was a great calm*¹³. The one was cast into a whale's belly: but the other of His own accord went down thither, where the invisible whale of death is. And He went down of His own accord, that death

¹[Hos. vi. 2.](#)

²Instead of τοῖς Ἰουδαίοις the Jerusalem Editor adopts from Cod. A. τοῖς ἰδίοις, "Your own countrymen," a better reading in this place, if it had more support from MSS. The Latin in Milles has only "Cur igitur non creditis?"

³The statements of Papias, Irenæus, Origen, Eusebius, Epiphanius, and Jerome, concerning a Hebrew Gospel of S. Matthew are ably discussed by Dr. Salmon (*Introduction to N.T. Lect. X.*), who comes to the conclusion that the Canonical Gospel was not translated from Hebrew (Aramaic), but originally written in Greek.

⁴This statement may have been derived either from Eusebius (*Hist. Eccl.* IV. c. 5), or from the "written records" (ἐγγράφων), from which he had learned that "until the siege of the Jews which took place under Adrian (135 A.D.), there were fifteen bishops in succession there, all of whom are said to have been of Hebrew descent." See the list of names, and the notes on the passage in this Series.

⁵[Matt. xxvii. 52, 53.](#)

⁶The Archdeacon of Jerusalem, Photius Alexandrides, observes that "by this parenthetic explanation Cyril perhaps wished to refute the opinion which some favoured that these saints which slept and were raised entered into the heavenly Jerusalem." See Euseb. *Dem. Evang.* IV. 12.

⁷[Matt. xii. 40.](#)

⁸"ἐνέργεια [Forte ἐνάργεια, Edit.]." This conjecture of the Benedictine Editor is recommended by the very appropriate sense "distinctness of the resemblance," but seems to have no MS. authority.

⁹κατ' οἰκονομίαν.

¹⁰[Jonah i. 6.](#)

¹¹[Matt. viii. 25, 26.](#)

¹²[Jonah i. 12.](#)

¹³[Matt. viii. 25, 26.](#)

might cast up those whom he had devoured, according to that which is written, *I will ransom them from the power of the grave; and from the hand of death I will redeem them*¹.

18. At this point of our discourse, let us consider whether is harder, for a man after having been buried to rise again from the earth, or for a man in the belly of a whale, having come into the great heat of a living creature, to escape corruption. For what man knows not, that the heat of the belly is so great, that even bones which have

been swallowed moulder away? How then did Jonas, who was three days and three nights in the whale's belly, escape corruption? And, seeing that the nature of all men is such that we cannot live without breathing, as we do, in air, how did he live without a breath of this air for three days? But the Jews make answer and say, The power of God descended with Jonas when he was tossed about in hell. Does then the Lord grant life to His own servant, by sending His power with him, and can He not grant it to Himself as well? If that is credible, this is credible also; if this is incredible, that also is incredible. For to me both are alike worthy of credence. I believe that Jonas was preserved, for *all things are possible with God*²; I believe that Christ also was raised from the dead; for I have many testimonies of this, both from the Divine Scriptures, and from the operative power even at this day³ of Him who arose,—who descended into hell alone, but ascended thence with a great company; for He went down to death, and *many bodies of the saints which slept arose*⁴ through Him.

19. Death was struck with dismay on beholding a new visitant descend into Hades, not bound by the chains of that place. Wherefore, O porters of Hades, were ye scared at sight of Him? What was the unwonted fear that possessed you? Death fled, and his flight betrayed his cowardice. The holy prophets ran unto Him, and Moses the Lawgiver, and Abraham, and Isaac, and Jacob; David also, and Samuel, and Esaias, and John the Baptist, who bore witness when he asked, *Art Thou He that should come, or look we for another*⁵? All the Just were ransomed, whom death had swallowed; for it behoved the King whom they had proclaimed, to become the redeemer of His noble heralds. Then each of the Just said, *O death, where is thy victory? O grave, where is thy sting*⁶? For the Conqueror hath redeemed us.

20. Of this our Saviour the Prophet Jonas formed the type, when he prayed out of the belly of the whale, and said, *I cried in my affliction*, and so on; *out of the belly of hell*⁷, and yet he was in the whale; but though in the whale, he says that he is in Hades; for he was a type of Christ, who was to descend into Hades. And after a few words, he says, in the person of Christ, prophesying most clearly, *My head went down to the chasms of the mountains*⁸; and yet he was in the belly of the whale. What mountains then encompass thee? I know, he says, that I am a type of Him, who is to be laid in the Sepulchre hewn out of the rock. And though he was in the sea, Jonas says, *I went down to the earth*, since he was a type of Christ, who went down into the heart of the earth. And foreseeing the deeds of the Jews who persuaded the soldiers to lie, and told them, *Say that they stole Him away*, he says, *By regarding lying vanities they forsook their own mercy*⁹. For He who had mercy on them came, and was crucified, and rose again, giving His own precious blood both for Jews and Gentiles; yet say they, *Say that they stole Him away*, having regard to *lying vanities*¹⁰. But concerning His Resurrection, Esaias also says, *He who brought up from the earth the great Shepherd of the sheep*¹¹; he added the word, *great*, lest He should be thought on a level with the shepherds who had gone before Him.

21. Since then we have the prophecies, let faith abide with us. Let them fall who fall through unbelief, since they so will; but thou hast taken thy stand on the rock of the faith in the Resurrection. Let no heretic ever persuade thee to speak evil of the Resurrection. For to this day the Manichees say, that, the resurrection of the Saviour was phantom-wise, and not real, not heeding Paul who says, *Who was made of the seed of David according to the flesh*; and again, *By the resurrection of Jesus Christ our Lord from the dead*¹². And again he aims at them, and speaks thus, *Say not in*

¹[Hosea xiii. 14.](#)

²[Matt. xix. 26.](#)

³Cf. Cat. iv. 13; xiii. 3.

⁴[Matt. xxvii. 52.](#)

⁵[Matt. 11.3.](#)

⁶[1 Cor. xv. 55.](#) On the opinion that the Patriarchs, Prophets, and Righteous men were redeemed by Christ in Hades, compare Irenæus (*Hær.* I. xxvii. § 3; IV. xxvii. §2), Clem. Alex. (*Stromat.* vi. c. 6), Origen (*In Genes.* Hom. xv. § 5).

⁷[Jonah ii. 2.](#)

⁸[Jonah 2.6](#): (R.V.) *I went down to the bottoms of the mountains: the earth with her bars closed upon me for ever.*

⁹[Jonah 2.8](#).

¹⁰By *lying vanities* are meant in the original “vain idols.”

¹¹[Isa. lxiii. 11](#); (R.V.), *Where is He that brought them up out of the sea with the shepherds* (Marg. *shepherd*) *of His flock?* Cyril's reading, ἐκ τῆς γῆς instead of ἐκ τῆς θαλάσσης is found in the Alexandrine ms. of the Septuagint. Athanasius (*Ad Serapion*, [Ep. i. 12](#)) has the same reading and interpretation as Cyril. By “*the shepherds*” are probably meant Moses and Aaron: cf. [Ps. lxxvii. 20](#): *Who leddest Thy people like sheep by the hand of Moses and Aaron.*

[Heb. xiii. 20](#): *Now the God of peace, that brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great Shepherd of the sheep, &c.* The word “great” is added by the Author of the Epistle to the Hebrews not by Isaiah.

¹²[Rom. i. 3, 4](#). Cyril in his incomplete quotation of v. 4 makes Ἰησοῦ Χριστοῦ τοῦ Κ. ἡμ. depend on ἀναστάσεως. The right order and construction is given in R.V. *who was declared to be the Son of God....by the resurrection of the dead; even Jesus Christ our Lord.*

100

thine heart, who shall ascend into heaven; or who shall descend into the deep? that is, to bring up Christ from the dead¹; and in like manner warning as he has elsewhere written again, Remember Jesus Christ raised from the dead²; and again, And if Christ be not risen, then is our preaching vain, and your faith also vain. Yea, and we are found false witnesses of God; because we testified of God that He raised up Christ, whom He raised not up³. But in what follows he says, But now is Christ risen from the dead, the first fruits of them that are asleep⁴;—And He was seen of Cephas, then of the twelve; (for if thou believe not the one witness, thou hast twelve witnesses;) then He was seen of above five hundred brethren at once⁵; (if they disbelieve the twelve, let them admit the five hundred;) after that He was seen of James⁶, His own brother, and first Bishop of this diocese. Seeing then that such a Bishop originally⁷ saw Christ Jesus when risen, do not thou, his disciple, disbelieve him. But thou sayest that His brother James was a partial witness; afterwards He was seen also of me⁸ Paul, His enemy; and what testimony is doubted, when an enemy proclaims it? “I, who was before a persecutor⁹, now preach the glad tidings of the Resurrection.”

22. Many witnesses there are of the Saviour's resurrection.—The night, and the light of the full moon; (for that night was the sixteenth¹⁰;) the rock of the sepulchre which received Him; the stone also shall rise up against the face of the Jews, for it saw the Lord; even the stone which was then rolled away¹¹, itself bears witness to the Resurrection, lying there to this day. Angels of God who were present testified of the Resurrection of the Only-begotten: Peter and John, and Thomas, and all the rest of the Apostles; some of whom ran to the sepulchre, and saw the burial-clothes, in which He was wrapped before, lying there after the Resurrection; and others handled His hands and His feet, and beheld the prints of the nails; and all enjoyed together that Breath of the Saviour, and were counted worthy to forgive sins in the power of the Holy Ghost. Women too were witnesses, who took hold of His feet, and who beheld the mighty earthquake, and the radiance of the Angel who stood by: the linen clothes also which were wrapped about Him, and which He left when He rose;—the soldiers, and the money given to them; the spot itself also, yet to be seen;—and this house of the holy Church, which out of the loving affection to Christ of the Emperor Constantine of blessed memory, was both built and beautified as thou seest.

23. A witness to the resurrection of Jesus is Tabitha also, who was in His name raised from the dead¹²; for how shall we disbelieve that Christ is risen, when even His Name raised the dead? The sea also bears witness to the resurrection of Jesus, as thou hast heard before¹³. The drought of fishes also testifies, and the fire of coals there, and the fish laid thereon. Peter also bears witness, who had erst denied Him thrice, and who then thrice confessed Him; and was commanded to feed His spiritual¹⁴ sheep. To this day stands Mount Olivet, still to the eyes of the faithful all but displaying Him Who ascended on a cloud, and the heavenly gate of His ascension. For from heaven He descended to Bethlehem, but to heaven He ascended from the Mount of Olives¹⁵; at the former place beginning His conflicts among men, but in the latter, crowned after them. Thou hast therefore many witnesses; thou hast this very place of the Resurrection; thou hast also the place of the Ascension towards the east; thou hast also for witnesses the Angels which there bore testimony; and the cloud on which He went up, and the disciples

who came down from that place.

24. The course of instruction in the Faith would lead me to speak of the Ascension also; but the grace of God so ordered¹⁶ it, that thou heardest most fully concerning it, as far as our weakness allowed, yesterday, on the

¹[Rom. x. 6, 7.](#)

²[2 Tim. ii. 8.](#)

³[1 Cor. xv. 14, 15.](#)

⁴[1 Cor. 15.20.](#)

⁵[1 Cor. 15.5,6.](#)

⁶[1 Cor. 15.7.](#) This appearance of Christ to James is not mentioned in the Gospels. Jerome (*Catalog. Script. Eccles.* p. 170 D) mentions a tradition that James had taken an oath that he would eat no bread from the hour in which he had drunk the Cup of the Lord, until he should see Him rising from the dead. Wherefore the Saviour immediately after He had risen appeared to James and commanded him to eat.

⁷For τοιούτου τοίνυν ἐπισκόπου πρωτοτύπως ἰδόντος Codd. Roe, Casaub. have τοῦ τοίνυν πρωτοτύπου ἐπισκόπου ἰδόντος, which gives the better sense—"since therefore the primary Bishop saw, &c." On the meaning of παρουσία, and the extent of a primitive Diocese, see Bingham. IX. c. 2.

⁸[1 Cor. xv. 8.](#)

⁹[1 Tim. i. 13.](#)

¹⁰If the Crucifixion took place on the 14th of Nisan, the following night would begin the 15th, and the next night the 16th.

¹¹Cf. Cat. xiii. 39.

¹²[Acts ix. 41.](#)

¹³See § 17, above.

¹⁴νοητά.

¹⁵St. Luke ([Luke 24.50](#)) describes the Ascension as taking place at Bethany, but the tradition, which Cyril follows, had long since fixed the scene on the summit of the Mount of Olives, a mile nearer to Jerusalem; and here the Empress Helena had built the Church of the Ascension (Eusebius, *Life of Constantine*, III. 43; *Demonstr. Evang.* VI. xviii. 26). There is nothing in Cyril's language to warrant the Benedictine Editor's suggestion that he alludes to the legend, according to which the marks of Christ's feet were indelibly impressed on the spot from which He ascended. In the next generation St. Augustine seems to countenance the miraculous story (*In Joh. Evang.* Tract xlvii.): "There are His footsteps, now adored, where last He stood, and whence He ascended into heaven." The supposed trace of one foot is still shewn on Mount Olivet; "the other having been removed by the Turks is now to be found in the Chapel of S. Thecla, which is in the Patriarch's Palace" (Jerusalem Ed.). Compare Stanley, *Sinai and Palestine*, c. xiv.; Dictionary of Bible, *Olives Mount of*.

¹⁶ὡκονόμησε. In this word, as also in the phrase below, κατ' οἰκονομίαν τῆς Θείας χάριτος, Cyril refers to the order of reading the Scriptures as part of a dispensation established by Divine grace.

Lord's day; since, by the providence of divine grace, the course of the Lessons¹ in Church included the account of our Saviour's going up into the heavens²; and what was then said was spoken principally for the sake of all, and for the assembled body of the faithful, yet especially for thy sake³. But the question is, didst thou attend to what was said? For thou knowest that the words which come next in the Creed teach thee to believe in Him "Who ROSE AGAIN THE THIRD DAY, AND ASCENDED INTO HEAVEN, AND SAT DOWN ON THE RIGHT HAND OF THE FATHER." I suppose then certainly that thou rememberest the exposition; yet I will now again cursorily put thee in mind of what was then said. Remember what is distinctly written in the Psalms, *God is gone up with a shout*⁴; remember that the divine powers also said to one another, *Lift up your gates, ye Princes*⁵, and the rest; remember also the Psalm which says, *He ascended on high, He led captivity captive*⁶; remember the Prophet who said, *Who buildeth His ascension unto heaven*⁷; and all the other particulars mentioned yesterday because of the gainsaying of the Jews.

25. For when they speak against the ascension of the Saviour, as being impossible, remember the account of the carrying away of Habakkuk: for if Habakkuk was transported by an Angel, being carried by the hair of his head⁸, much rather was the Lord of both Prophets and Angels, able by His own power to make His ascent into the Heavens on a cloud from the Mount of Olives. Wonders like this thou mayest call to mind, but reserve the preeminence for the Lord, the Worker of wonders; for the others were borne up, but He bears up all things. Remember that Enoch was translated⁹; but Jesus ascended: remember what was said yesterday concerning Elias, that Elias was taken up in a chariot of fire¹⁰; but that *the chariots of Christ are ten thousand-fold even thousands upon thousands*¹¹: and that Elias was taken up, towards the east of Jordan; but that Christ ascended at the east of the brook Cedron: and that Elias went *as into heaven*¹²; but Jesus, into heaven: and that Elias said that a double portion in the Holy Spirit should be given to his holy disciple; but that Christ granted to His own disciples so great enjoyment of the grace of the Holy Ghost, as not only to have It in themselves, but also, by the laying on of their hands, to impart the fellowship of It to them who believed.

26. And when thou hast thus wrestled against the Jews,—when thou hast worsted them by parallel instances, then come further to the pre-eminence of the Saviour's glory; namely, that they were the servants, but He the Son of God. And thus thou wilt be reminded of His pre-eminence, by the thought that a servant of Christ was caught up to the third heaven. For if Elias attained as far as the first heaven, but Paul as far as the third, the latter, therefore, has obtained a more honourable dignity. Be not ashamed of thine Apostles; they are not inferior to Moses, nor second to the Prophets; but they are noble among the noble, yea, nobler still. For Elias truly was taken up into heaven; but Peter has the keys of the kingdom of heaven, having received the words, *Whatsoever thou shalt loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven*¹³. Elias was taken up only to heaven; but Paul both into *heaven*, and into *paradise*¹⁴ (for it behoved the disciples of Jesus to receive more manifold grace), and *heard unspeakable words, which it is not lawful for man to utter*. But Paul came down again from above, not because he was unworthy to abide in the third heaven, but in order that after having enjoyed things above man's reach, and descended in honour, and having preached Christ, and died for His sake, he might receive also the crown of martyrdom. But I pass over the other parts of this argument, of which I spoke yesterday in the Lord's-day congregation; for with understanding hearers, a mere reminder is sufficient for instruction.

27. But remember also what I have often said¹⁵ concerning the Son's sitting at the right

¹ἀναγνωσμάτων a term including the portions of Scripture (περικοπαί) appointed for the Epistle and Gospel as well as the daily lessons from the Old and New Testaments.

²The section [Luke xxiv. 36-53](#), which in the Eastern Church is the Gospel for Ascension Day, is also one of the "eleven morning Gospels of the Resurrection (εὐαγγέλια ἀναστασιμὰ ἑωθινά), which were read in turn, one every Sunday at Matins." *Dictionary of Chr. Antiq.* "Lectionary." This Lecture being delivered on Monday, the Section in question had been read on the preceding day.

³μάλιστα μὲν...ἐξαίρετως δέ.

⁴[Ps. xlvii. 5](#).

⁵[Ps. xxiv. 7](#): *Lift up, O gates, your heads*. The order of the Hebrew words misled the Greek Translators.

⁶[Ps. lxxviii. 18](#). On the reading ἀνέβη, found in a few MSS. of the Septuagint, see Tischendorf's note on [Eph. iv. 8](#).

⁷[Amos ix. 6](#): (R.V.) *It is He that buildeth His chambers in the heaven*. (A.V.) *His stories*. Marg. *ascensions*, or *spheres*. Sept. τὴν ἀνάβασιν αὐτοῦ.

⁸Bel and the Dragon, vBel. 33: Compare [Ezek. viii. 3](#).

⁹[Heb. xi. 5](#).

¹⁰[2 Kings ii. 11](#).

¹¹[Ps. lxxviii. 17](#): χιλιάδες εὐθηνούντων. The Hebrew means literally "thousands of repetition," i.e. many thousands: εὐθηνεῖν, "to abound."

¹²Sept. ὥς εἰς τὸν οὐρανόν. In [1 Macc. ii. 58](#) the MSS. vary between ἕως and ὥς, but the latter (says Fritzsche) "is an alteration made to agree with [2 Kings ii. 11](#). But there the reference is to the *intended* exaltation of Elijah into heaven, and therefore ὥς is rightly used (Kühner, *Gramm.* § 604, note; Jelf, § 626, Obs. 1), while here the thing is referred to as an *accomplished historical fact*." The distinction here drawn by Cyril is therefore hypercritical, as is seen below in § 26, where he writes, Ἡλίας μὲν γὰρ ἀνελήφθη εἰς οὐρανόν.

¹³[Matt. xvi. 19](#).

¹⁴[2 Cor. xii. 2, 4](#).

¹⁵See Cat. iv. 7; xi. 17. The clause, καὶ καθίσαντα ἐκ δεξιῶν τοῦ Πατρὸς, does not occur in the original form of the Nicene Creed, but is found in the Confession of Faith contained in *Const. Apost.* c. 41, in the four Eusebian Confessions of Antioch (341, 2 A.D.), and in the Macrostichos (344 A.D.). An equivalent clause is found in the brief Confession of Hippolytus (circ. 220 A.D.) *Contra Hæres. Noeti*, c. 1: "καὶ ὄντα ἐν δεξιᾷ τοῦ Πατρὸς," and in Tertullian, *De Virgin. Veland.* c. 1: "Regula quidem Fidei una omnino est, sola immobilis et irreformabilis,.... sedentem nunc ad dextram Patris:" *de Præscriptione*, c. 13: "Regula est autem fidei....sedisse ad dexteram Patris:" *adversus Praxean*, c. 2: "sedere ad dexteram Patris."

102

hand of the Father; because of the next sentence in the Creed, which says, "AND ASCENDED INTO HEAVEN, AND SAT DOWN AT THE RIGHT HAND OF THE FATHER." Let us not curiously pry into what is properly meant by the throne; for it is incomprehensible: but neither let us endure those who falsely say, that it was after His Cross and Resurrection and Ascension into heaven, that the Son began to sit on the right hand of the Father. For the Son gained not His throne by advancement¹; but throughout His being (and His being is by an eternal generation²) He also sitteth together with the Father. And this throne the Prophet Esaias having beheld before the incarnate coming of the Saviour, says, *I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lifted up*³, and the rest. For the Father *no man hath seen at any time*⁴, and He who then appeared to the Prophet was the Son. The Psalmist also says, *Thy throne is prepared of old; Thou art from everlasting*⁵. Though then the testimonies on this point are many, yet because of the lateness of the time, we will content ourselves even with these.

28. But now I must remind you of a few things out of many which are spoken concerning the Son's sitting at the right hand of the Father. For the hundred and ninth Psalm says plainly, *The LORD said unto my Lord, Sit Thou on My right hand, until I make Thine enemies Thy footstool*⁶. And the Saviour, confirming this saying in the Gospels, says that David spoke not these things of himself, but from the inspiration of the Holy Ghost, saying, *How then doth David in the Spirit call Him Lord, saying, The Lord said unto my Lord, Sit Thou on My right hand*⁷? and the rest. And in the Acts of the Apostles, Peter on the day of Pentecost standing with the Eleven⁸, and discoursing to the Israelites, has in very words cited this testimony from the hundred and ninth Psalm.

29. But I must remind you also of a few other testimonies in like manner concerning the Son's sitting at the right hand of the Father. For in the Gospel according to Matthew it is written, *Nevertheless, I say unto you, Henceforth ye shall see the Son of Man sitting on the right hand of power*⁹, and the rest: in accordance with which the Apostle Peter also writes, *By the Resurrection of Jesus Christ, who is on the right hand of God, having gone into heaven*¹⁰. And the Apostle Paul, writing to the Romans, says, *It is Christ that died, yea rather, that is risen again, who is even at the right hand of God*¹¹. And charging the Ephesians, he thus speaks, *According to the working of His mighty power, which He wrought in Christ when He raised Him from the dead, and set Him at His own right hand*¹²; and the rest. And the Colossians he taught thus, *If ye then be risen with Christ, seek the things above, where Christ is seated at the right hand of God*¹³. And in the Epistle to the Hebrews he says, *When He had made purification of our sins, He sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high*¹⁴. And again, *But unto which of the Angels hath He said at any time, Sit thou at My right hand, until I make thine enemies thy footstool*¹⁵? And again, *But He, when He had offered one sacrifice for all men, for ever sat down on the right hand of God; from henceforth expecting till His enemies be made His footstool*¹⁶. And again, *Looking unto Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith; Who for the joy that was set before Him endured the Cross, despising shame, and is set down on the right hand of the throne of God*¹⁷.

30. And though there are many other texts concerning the session of the Only-begotten on the right hand of God, yet these may suffice us at present; with a repetition of my remark, that it was not after His coming in the flesh¹⁸ that He obtained the dignity of this seat; no, for even before all ages, the Only-begotten Son of God, our Lord Jesus Christ, ever possesses the throne on the right hand of the Father. Now may He Himself, the God of all, who is Father of the Christ, and our Lord Jesus Christ, who came down, and ascended, and sitteth together with the Father, watch over your souls; keep unshaken and unchanged your hope in Him who rose again; raise you together with Him from your dead sins unto His heavenly gift; count you worthy to be *caught up in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air*¹⁹, in His fitting time; and, until that time arrive of His glorious second advent, write all your names in the Book of the living, and having written them, never blot them out (for the names of many, who fall away, are blotted out); and may He grant to all of you to believe on Him who rose again, and to look for Him who is gone up, and is to come again, (to come, but not from the earth; for be on your guard, O man, because of the deceivers who are to come;) Who sitteth on high, and is here present together with us, *beholding the*

¹ἐκ προκοπῆς. Cf. Cat. x. 5, note 8.

²ἀφ' οὗπερ ἔστιν, (ἔστι δὲ ἀεὶ γεννηθείς). In both clauses ἔστιν is emphatic.

³Is. vi. 1.

⁴John i. 18.

⁵Ps. xciii. 2.

⁶Ps. cx. 1.

⁷Matt. xxii. 43.

⁸Acts ii. 34.

⁹Matt. xxvi. 64.

¹⁰1 Pet. iii. 22.

¹¹Rom. viii. 34.

¹²Eph. i. 19, 20.

¹³Col. iii. 1.

¹⁴[Heb. i. 3.](#)

¹⁵[Heb. 1.13.](#)

¹⁶[Heb. 10.12.](#)

¹⁷[Heb. 12.2.](#) On Cyril's omission of [Mark xvi. 19.](#) see Westcott and Hort.

¹⁸τὴν ἐνσαρκον παρουσίαν. Cf. § 27.

¹⁹[1 Thess. iv. 17.](#)

103

*order of each, and the steadfastness of his faith*¹. For think not that because He is now absent in the flesh, He is therefore absent also in the Spirit. He is here present in the midst of us, listening to what is said of Him, and beholding thine inward thoughts, and *trying the reins and hearts*²;—who also is now ready to present those who are coming to baptism, and all of you, in the Holy Ghost to the Father, and to say, *Behold, I and the children whom God hath given Me*³:—To whom be glory for ever. Amen.

¹[Col. ii. 5.](#)

²[Ps. vii. 9.](#)

³[Isa. viii. 18;](#) [Heb. ii. 13.](#)

104

Lecture XV.

On the Clause, And Shall Come in Glory to Judge the Quick and the Dead; Of Whose Kingdom There Shall Be No End.

DANIEL VII. 9-14

I beheld till thrones were placed, and one that was ancient of days did sit, and then, I saw in a vision of the night, and behold one like unto the Son of Man came with the clouds of heaven, &c.

1. WE preach not one advent only of Christ, but a second also, far more glorious than the former. For the former gave a view of His patience; but the latter brings with it the crown of a divine kingdom. For all things, for the most part, are twofold in our Lord Jesus Christ: a twofold generation; one, of God, before the ages; and one, of a Virgin, at the close of the ages: His descents twofold; one, the unobserved, *like rain on a fleece*¹; and a second His open coming, which is to be. In His former advent, He was wrapped in swaddling clothes in the manger; in His second, He *covereth Himself with light as with a garment*². In His first coming, *He endured the Cross, despising shame*³; in His second, He comes attended by a host of Angels, receiving glory⁴. We rest not then upon His first advent only, but look also for His second. And as at His first coming we said, *Blessed is He that cometh in the Name of the Lord*⁵, so will we repeat the same at His second coming; that when with Angels we meet our Master, we may worship Him and say, *Blessed is He that cometh in the Name of the Lord*. The Saviour comes, not to be judged again, but to judge them who judged Him; He who before held His peace when judged⁶, shall remind the

transgressors who did those daring deeds at the Cross, and shall say, *These things hast thou done, and I kept silence*⁷. Then, He came because of a divine dispensation, teaching men with persuasion; but this time they will of necessity have Him for their King, even though they wish it not.

2. And concerning these two comings, Malachi the Prophet says, *And the Lord whom ye seek shall suddenly come to His temple*⁸; behold one coming. And again of the second coming he says, *And the Messenger of the covenant whom ye delight in. Behold, He cometh, saith*⁹ *the Lord Almighty. But who shall abide the day of His coming? or who shall stand when He appeareth? Because He cometh in like a refiner's fire, and like fullers' herb; and He shall sit as a refiner and purifier.* And immediately after the Saviour Himself says, *And I will draw near to you in judgment; and I will be a swift witness against the sorcerers, and against the adulteresses, and against those who swear falsely in My Name*¹⁰, and the rest. For this cause Paul warning us beforehand says, *If any man buildeth on the foundation gold, and silver, and precious stones, wood, hay, stubble; every man's work shall be made manifest; for the day shall declare it, because it shall be revealed in fire*¹¹. Paul also knew these two comings, when writing to Titus and saying, *The grace of God hath appeared which bringeth salvation unto all men, instructing us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, and godly, and righteously in this present world; looking for the blessed hope, and appearing of the glory of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ*¹². Thou seest how he spoke of a first, for which he gives thanks; and of a second, to which we look forward. Therefore the words also of the Faith which we are announcing were just now delivered thus¹³; that we believe in Him, who also ASCENDED INTO THE HEAVENS, AND SAT

¹[Ps. lxxii. 6.](#) See xii. 9; and § 10, below.

²[Ps. civ. 2.](#)

³[Heb. xii. 2.](#)

⁴Cyril's contrast of the two Advents seems to be partly borrowed from Justin M. (*Apol.* i. 52; *Tryph.* 110). See also Tertullian (*Adv. Judæos*, c. 14); Hippolytus (*De Antichristo*, 44).

⁵[Matt. xxi. 9; xxiii. 39.](#)

⁶[Matt. 26.63.](#)

⁷[Ps. i. 21.](#)

⁸[Mal. iii. 1-3.](#)

⁹The Benedictine Editor by omitting λέγει, obtains the sense, *He cometh, even the Lord Almighty.* But λέγει is supported by the mss. of Cyril, as well as by the Septuagint and Hebrew.

¹⁰[Mal. iii. 5.](#)

¹¹[1 Cor. iii. 12.](#)

¹²[Titus ii. 11.](#) The Benedictine Editor adopts του Σωτήρος instead of ὁ σωτήριος against the authority of the best mss. of Cyril.

¹³νῦν παρεδόθη. Cyril means that at the beginning of this present Lecture he had delivered to the Catechumens those articles of the Creed which he was going to explain. Compare Cat. xviii. 21, where we see that Cyril first announces (ἐπαγγέλλω) the words which the learners repeat after him (ἀπαγγέλλω).

The clause, WHOSE KINGDOM SHALL HAVE NO END, was not contained in the original form of the Creed of Nicæa, A.D. 325, but its substance is found in many earlier writings. Compare Justin M. (*Tryph.* § 46: καὶ αὐτοῦ ἐστὶν ἡ

αἰώνιος βασιλεία); *Const. Apost.* vii. 41; the Eusebian Confessions 1st and 4th Antioch, and the Macrostich, A.D. 341, 342, 344. Bp. Bull asserts that the Creed of Jerusalem, containing this clause, was no other than the ancient Eastern Creed, first directed against the Gnostics of the Sub-Apostolic age (*Judicium Eccl. Cathol.* vi. 16).

105

DOWN ON THE RIGHT HAND OF THE FATHER, AND SHALL COME IN GLORY TO JUDGE QUICK AND DEAD; WHOSE KINGDOM SHALL HAVE NO END.

3. Our Lord Jesus Christ, then, comes from heaven; and He comes with glory at the end of this world, in the last day. For of this world there is to be an end, and this created world is to be re-made anew¹. For since corruption, *and theft, and adultery*, and every sort of sins *have been poured forth over the earth, and blood has been mingled with blood*² in the world, therefore, that this wondrous dwelling-place may not remain filled with iniquity, this world passeth away, that the fairer world may be made manifest. And wouldest thou receive the proof of this out of the words of Scripture? Listen to Esaias, saying, *And the heaven shall be rolled together as a scroll; and all the stars shall fall, as leaves from a vine, and as leaves fall from a fig-tree*³. The Gospel also says, *The sun shall be darkened, and the moon shall not give her light, and the stars shall fall from heaven*⁴. Let us not sorrow, as if we alone died; the stars also shall die; but perhaps rise again. And the Lord rolleth up the heavens, not that He may destroy them, but that He may raise them up again more beautiful. Hear David the Prophet saying, *Thou, Lord, in the beginning didst lay the foundations of the earth, and the heavens are the work of Thy hands; they shall perish, but Thou remainest*⁵. But some one will say, Behold, he says plainly that *they shall perish*. Hear in what sense he says, *they shall perish*; it is plain from what follows; *And they all shall wax old as doth a garment; and as a vesture shalt Thou fold them up, and they shall be changed*. For as a man is said to “perish,” according to that which is written, *Behold, how the righteous perisheth, and no man layeth it to heart*⁶, and this, though the resurrection is looked for; so we look for a resurrection, as it were, of the heavens also. *The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood*⁷. Here let converts from the Manichees gain instruction, and no longer make those lights their gods; nor impiously think, that this sun which shall be darkened is Christ⁸. And again hear the Lord saying, *Heaven and earth shall pass away, but My words shall not pass away*⁹; for the creatures are not as precious as the Master’s words.

4. The things then which are seen shall pass away, and there shall come the things which are looked for, things fairer than the present; but as to the time let no one be curious. For *it is not for you*, He says, *to know times or seasons, which the Father hath put in His own power*¹⁰. And venture not thou to declare when these things shall be, nor on the other hand supinely slumber. For he saith, *Watch, for in such an hour as ye expect not the Son of Man cometh*¹¹. But since it was needful for us to know the signs of the end, and since we are looking for Christ, therefore, that we may not die deceived and be led astray by that false Antichrist, the Apostles, moved by the divine will, address themselves by a providential arrangement to the True Teacher, and say, *Tell us, when shall these things be, and what shall be the sign of Thy coming, and of the end of the world*¹²? We look for Thee to come again, but *Satan transforms himself into an Angel of light*; put us therefore on our guard, that we may not worship another instead of Thee. And He, opening His divine and blessed mouth, says, *Take heed that no man mislead you*. Do you also, my hearers, as seeing Him now with the eyes of your mind, hear Him saying the same things to you; *Take heed that no man mislead you*. And this word exhorts you all to give heed to what is spoken; for it is not a history of things gone by, but a prophecy of things future, and which will surely come. Not that we prophesy, for we are unworthy; but that the things which are written will be set before you, and the signs declared. Observe thou, which of them have already come to pass, and which yet remain; and make thyself safe.

5. *Take heed that no man mislead you: for many shall come in My name, saying, I am Christ, and shall mislead many*. This has happened in part: for already Simon Magus has said this, and Menander¹³, and some others of the godless leaders of heresy; and others will say it in our days, or after us.

6. A second sign. *And ye shall hear of wars and rumours of wars*¹⁴. Is there then at this time war between Persians and Romans for Mesopotamia, or no? Does nation rise up against nation and kingdom against kingdom, or no? *And there shall be famines and pesti*

¹The Benedictine Editor suggests that Cyril “is refuting those who said that the Universe was to perish utterly, an opinion which seems to be somehow imputed to Origen by Methodius, or Proclus, in Epiphanius (*Hæres.* lxiv. 31, 32).” On Origen’s much controverted opinions concerning the beginning and end of the world, see Huet.

Origeniana, II. 4–6: and Bp. Westcott, *Dictionary of Christian Biography*, “Origen,” pp. 137, 138.

²[Hos. iv. 2.](#)

³[Is. xxxiv. 4.](#)

⁴[Matt. xxiv. 29.](#)

⁵[Ps. cii. 25, 26; Heb. i. 10-12.](#)

⁶[Is. lvii. 1.](#)

⁷[Joel ii. 31.](#)

⁸[Cat. vi. 13; xi. 21.](#)

⁹[Matt. xxiv. 35.](#)

¹⁰[Acts i. 7.](#)

¹¹[Matt. 24.3,42,44.](#)

¹²[Matt. 24.3.4.](#)

¹³[Cat. vi. 14, 16.](#)

¹⁴[Matt. xxiv. 6.](#) The war with Sapor II., King of Persia, which broke out immediately on the death of Constantine, and continued throughout the reign of Constantius, was raging fiercely at the date of these Lectures, the great battle of Singara being fought in the year 348 A.D.

106

lences and earthquakes in divers places. These things have already come to pass; and again, *And fearful sights from heaven, and mighty storms*¹. *Watch therefore, He says; for ye know not at what hour your Lord doth come*².

7. But we seek our own sign of His coming; we Churchmen seek a sign proper to the Church³. And the Saviour says, *And then shall many be offended, and shall betray one another, and shall hate one another*⁴. If thou hear that bishops advance against bishops, and clergy against clergy, and laity against laity even unto blood, be not troubled⁵; for it has been written before. Heed not the things now happening, but the things which are written; and even though I who teach thee perish, thou shalt not also perish with me; nay, even a hearer may become better than his teacher, and he who came last may be first, since even those about the eleventh hour the Master receives. If among Apostles there was found treason, dost thou wonder that hatred of brethren is found among bishops? But the sign concerns not only rulers, but the people also; for He says, *And because iniquity shall abound, the love of the many shall wax cold*⁶. Will any then among those present boast that he entertains friendship unfeigned towards his neighbour? Do not the lips often kiss, and the countenance smile, and the eyes brighten forsooth, while the heart is planning guile, and the man is plotting mischief with words of peace?

8. Thou hast this sign also: *And this Gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations, and then shall the end come*⁷. And as we see, nearly the whole world is now filled with the doctrine of Christ.

9. And what comes to pass after this? He says next, *When therefore ye see the abomination of desolation, which was spoken of by Daniel the Prophet, standing in the Holy Place, let him that readeth understand*⁸. And again, *Then if any man shall say unto you, Lo, here is the Christ, or, Lo, there; believe it not*⁹. Hatred of the brethren

makes room next for Antichrist; for the devil prepares beforehand the divisions among the people, that he who is to come may be acceptable to them. But God forbid that any of Christ's servants here, or elsewhere, should run over to the enemy! Writing concerning this matter, the Apostle Paul gave a manifest sign, saying, *For that day shall not come, except there came first the falling away, and the man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition, who opposeth and exalteth himself against all that is called God, or that is worshipped; so that he sitteth in the temple of God, shewing himself that he is God. Remember ye not that when I was yet with you, I told you these things? And now ye know that which restraineth, to the end that he may be revealed in his own season. For the mystery of iniquity doth already work, only there is one that restraineth now, until he be taken out of the way. And then shall the lawless one be revealed, whom the Lord Jesus shall slay with the breath of His mouth, and shall destroy with the brightness of His coming. Even him, whose coming is after the working of Satan, with all power and signs and lying wonders, and with all deceit of unrighteousness for them that are perishing*¹⁰. Thus wrote Paul, and now is the falling away. For men have fallen away from the right faith¹¹; and some preach the identity of the Son with the Father¹², and others dare to say that Christ

¹[Luke xxi. 11](#). Jerome in the *Chronicon* mentions a great earthquake in 346 A.D., by which Dyrrachium was destroyed, and Rome and other cities of Italy greatly injured (Ben. Ed.).

Cyril substitutes χειμῶνες for σημεία, the better reading in [Luke xxi. 11](#).

²[Matt. xxiv. 42](#).

³ἐκκλησιαστικός, when applied to persons, means either, as here, an orthodox member of the Church in contrast to a heretic, pagan, or Jew (Origen, in *Job* xx. 6), or more particularly a Cleric as opposed to a layman (Cat. xvii. 10).

⁴[Matt. xxiv. 10](#).

⁵"S. Cyril here describes the state of the Church, when orthodoxy was for a while trodden under foot, its maintainers persecuted, and the varieties of Arianism, which took its place, were quarreling for the ascendancy. Gibbon quotes two passages, one from a pagan historian of the day, another from a Father of the Church, which fully bear out S. Cyril's words. What made the state of things still more deplorable, was the defection of some of the orthodox party, as Marcellus, into opposite errors: while the subsequent secessions of Apollinaris and Lucifer show what lurking disorders there were within it at the time when S. Cyril wrote. (Vid. *infr.* 9.) The passages referred to are as follows: 'The Christian Religion,' says Ammianus, 'in itself plain and simple, he (Constantius) confounded by the dotage of superstition. Instead of reconciling the parties by the weight of his authority, he cherished and propagated, by vain disputes, the differences which his vain curiosity had excited. The highways were covered with troops of Bishops, galloping from every side to the assemblies, which they called synods; and while they laboured to reduce the whole sect to their own particular opinions, the public establishment of the posts was almost ruined by their hasty and repeated journeys.' *Hist.* xxi. 16. S. Hilary of Poitiers thus speaks of Asia Minor, the chief seat of the Arian troubles: 'It is a thing equally deplorable and dangerous, that there are as many creeds as opinions among men, as many doctrines as inclinations, and as many sources of blasphemy as there are faults among us; because we make creeds arbitrarily, and explain them as arbitrarily. The Homoousion is rejected and received and explained away by successive synods. The partial or total resemblance of the Father and of the Son is a subject of dispute for these unhappy divines. Every year, nay, every moon, we make new creeds to describe invisible mysteries. We repent of what we have done, we defend those who repent, we anathematize those whom we defended. We condemn either the doctrine of others in ourselves, or our own in that of others; and reciprocally tearing one another to pieces, we have been the cause of each other's ruin,' *ad Constant.* ii. 4, 5. Gibbon's translations are used, which, though diffuse, are faithful in their matter. What a contrast do these descriptions present to Athanasius' uniform declaration, that the whole question was really settled at Nicæa, and no other synod or debate was necessary!"—(R.W.C.). Compare, for example, the account of the seditions in Antioch and in Constantinople, in Socrates, *Eccles. Hist.* i. 24; i., 12–14, and Athanas. *Hist. Arianorum*, passim.

⁶[Matt. xxiv. 12](#).

⁷[Matt. xxiv. 14](#).

⁸[Matt. 24.15.](#)

⁹[Matt. 24.23.](#)

¹⁰[2 Thess. ii. 3-10.](#)

¹¹The prediction was supposed by earlier Fathers to refer to a personal Antichrist whom they expected to come speedily. See Justin M. (*Tryph.* § 110: ὁ τῆς ἀποστασίας ἄνθρωπος; *ib.* § 32: “He who is to speak blasphemous and daring things against the Most High is already at the doors.” Iren. *Hær.* V. 25. Cyril in this passage regards the heresies of his time as the apostasy in general, but looks also for a personal Antichrist: (§§ 11, 12).

¹²ὕποπατορία. On this contemptuous name for Sabellianism, see Cat. iv. 8; xi. 16. The Third (Eusebian) Confession, or Third of Antioch, A.D. 341, anathematizes any who hold the doctrines of Marcellus of Ancyra or Sabellius, or Paul of Samosata (Athan. *de Synodis*, § 24 note 10, p. 462, in this Series, and Mr. Robertson’s *Prolegomena*, p. xlv.). In the *Ecthesis*, or *Statement of Faith*, § 2, Athanasius writes: “Neither do we hold a Son-Father, as do the Sabellians, calling Him of one but (*a sole and?*) not the same essence, and thus destroying the existence of the Son.” As to Marcellus, see Athanasius, *Hist. Arian.* § 6 (p. 271), and the letter of Julius in the *Apologia c. Arian.* § 32 (p. 116): also notes 3, 4 on § 27 below.

107

was brought into being out of nothing¹. And formerly the heretics were manifest; but now the Church is filled with heretics in disguise². For men have fallen away from the truth, and *have itching ears*³. Is it a plausible discourse? all listen to it gladly. Is it a word of correction? all turn away from it. Most have departed from right words, and rather choose the evil, than desire the good⁴. This therefore is *the falling away*, and the enemy is soon to be looked for: and meanwhile he has in part begun to send forth his own forerunners⁵, that he may then come prepared upon the prey. Look therefore to thyself, O man, and make safe thy soul. The Church now charges thee before the Living God; she declares to thee the things concerning Antichrist before they arrive. Whether they will happen in thy time we know not, or whether they will happen after thee we know not; but it is well that, knowing these things, thou shouldest make thyself secure beforehand.

10. The true Christ, the Only-begotten Son of God, comes no more from the earth. If any come making false shows⁶ in the wilderness, go not forth; if they say, *Lo, here is the Christ, Lo, there, believe it not*⁷. Look no longer downwards and to the earth; for the Lord descends from heaven; not alone as before, but with many, escorted by tens of thousands of Angels; nor secretly as the dew on the fleece⁸; but shining forth openly as the lightning. For He hath said Himself, *As the lightning cometh out of the east, and shineth even unto the west, so shall also the coming of the Son of Man be*⁹; and again, *And they shall see the Son of Man coming upon the clouds with power and great glory, and He shall send forth His Angels with a great trumpet*¹⁰; and the rest.

11. But as, when formerly He was to take man’s nature, and God was expected to be born of a Virgin, the devil created prejudice against this, by craftily preparing among idol-worshippers¹¹ fables of false gods, begetting and begotten of women, that, the falsehood having come first, the truth, as he supposed, might be disbelieved; so now, since the true Christ is to come a second time, the adversary, taking occasion by¹² the expectation of the simple, and especially of them of the circumcision, brings in a certain man who is a magician¹³, and most expert in sorceries and enchantments of beguiling craftiness; who shall seize for himself the power of the Roman empire, and shall falsely style himself Christ; by this name of Christ deceiving the Jews, who are looking for the Anointed¹⁴, and seducing those of the Gentiles by his magical illusions.

12. But this aforesaid Antichrist is to come when the times of the Roman empire shall have been fulfilled, and the end of the world is now drawing near¹⁵. There shall rise up together ten kings of the Romans, reigning in different parts perhaps, but all about the same time; and after these an eleventh, the Antichrist, who by his magical craft shall seize upon the Roman power; and of the kings who reigned before him, *three he shall humble*¹⁶, and the remaining seven he shall keep in subjection to himself. At first indeed he will put on a show of mildness (as though he were a learned and discreet person), and of soberness and benevolence¹⁷: and by the lying

¹See Athanasius, *De Synod.* § 15: “Arius and those with him thought and professed thus: ‘God made the Son out of nothing, and called Him His Son:’” and *Expos. Fidei*, § 2: “We do not regard as a creature, or thing made, or as made out of nothing, God the Creator of all, the Son of God, the true Being from the true Being, the Alone from the Alone, inasmuch as the like glory and power was eternally and conjointly begotten of the Father.” The 4th (Eusebian) Confession, or 4th of Antioch, A.D. 342, ends thus: “Those who say that the Son was from nothing,... the Catholic Church regards as aliens.”

²Athan. *Adversus Arianos*, Or. i. 1: “One heresy and that the last which has now risen as forerunner of Antichrist, the Arian as it is called, considering that other heresies, her elder sisters, have been openly proscribed, in her craft and cunning affects to array herself in Scripture language, like her father the devil, and is forcing her way back into the Church’s paradise, &c.” The supposed date of this Oration is 8 or 10 years later than that of Cyril’s Lectures.

³[2 Tim. iv. 3.](#)

⁴A reading supported by the best MSS. and approved by the Benedictine Editor gives a different sense, “and rather choose to seem than resolve to be,” inverting the proverb “esse quam videri.”

⁵In the passage quoted above in note 5 the Arian heresy is called a “forerunner” (πρόδρομος) of Antichrist.

⁶φαντασιοκοπῶν, a rare word, rendered “frantic” in [Ecclesiasticus 4.30](#): its more precise meaning seems to be “making a false show,” which is here applied to a false Christ, and again in § 14 to the father of lies who makes a vain show of false miracles.

⁷[Matt. xxiv. 23.](#)

⁸[Ps. lxxii. 6.](#) Cf. § 1, note 1.

⁹[Matt. xxiv. 27.](#)

¹⁰[Matt. xxiv. v. 30.](#)

¹¹ἐν εἰδωλολατρείᾳ may mean either “in idol-worship,” or “among idolaters,” the abstract being used for the concrete, as in [Rom. iii. 30](#): δικαίῳσει περιτομήν.

¹²ἐφόδιον, “provision for a journey,” is here equivalent in meaning to ἀφορμή, “a starting point,” or “favourable occasion.”

¹³Antichrist is described by Hippolytus (*De Christo et Antichristo*, § 57, as “a son of the devil, and a vessel of Satan,” who will rule and govern “after the manner of the law of Augustus, by whom the Roman empire was established, sanctioning everything thereby.” Cf. Iren. *Hær.* V. 30, § 3; Dictionary of Christian Biography, *Antichrist*: “The sharp precision with which St. Paul had pointed to ‘the man of sin,’ ‘the lawless one,’ ‘the adversary,’ ‘the son of perdition,’ led men to dwell on that thought rather than on the many ψευδόχριστοι of whom Christ Himself had spoken.”

¹⁴τὸν Ἡλεμμένον, Aquila’s rendering of משיח, adopted by the Jews in preference to τὸν Χριστόν, from hatred of the name Christ or Christian. Hippolytus, *ubi supra*, § 6: “The Saviour came into the world in the Circumcision, and he (Antichrist) will come in the same manner:” ib. § 14: “As Christ springs from the tribe of Judah, so Antichrist is to spring from the tribe of Dan.” This expectation was grounded by Hippolytus on [Gen. xlix. 17](#).

¹⁵The fourth kingdom in the prophecy of Daniel ([Dan. 7.7,23](#)) was generally understood by early Christian writers to be the Roman Empire; and its dissolution was to be speedily followed by the end of the world. See § 13 below; Irenæus, V. 26; and Hippolytus, *ubi supra*, §§ 19, 28.

¹⁶[Dan. vii. 24](#): and he shall put down three kings (R.V.).

¹⁷The Jerusalem Editor quotes as from Hippolytus a similar description of Antichrist (§ 23): "In his first steps he will be gentle, loveable, quiet, pious, pacific, hating injustice, detesting gifts, not allowing idolatry, &c." But the treatise is a forgery of unknown date, apparently much later than Cyril.

108

signs and wonders of his magical deceit¹ having beguiled the Jews, as though he were the expected Christ, he shall afterwards be characterized by all kinds of crimes of inhumanity and lawlessness, so as to outdo all unrighteous and ungodly men who have gone before him; displaying against all men, but especially against us Christians, a spirit murderous and most cruel, merciless and crafty². And after perpetrating such things for three years and six months only, he shall be destroyed by the glorious second advent from heaven of the only-begotten Son of God, our Lord and Saviour Jesus, the true Christ, who shall slay Antichrist *with the breath of His mouth*³, and shall deliver him over to the fire of hell.

13. Now these things we teach, not of our own invention, but having learned them out of the divine Scriptures used in the Church⁴, and chiefly from the prophecy of Daniel just now read; as Gabriel also the Archangel interpreted it, speaking thus: *The fourth beast shall be a fourth kingdom upon earth, which shall surpass all kingdoms*⁵. And that this kingdom is that of the Romans, has been the tradition of the Church's interpreters. For as the first kingdom which became renowned was that of the Assyrians, and the second, that of the Medes and Persians together, and after these, that of the Macedonians was the third, so the fourth kingdom now is that of the Romans⁶. Then Gabriel goes on to interpret, saying, *His ten horns are ten kings that shall arise; and another king shall rise up after them, who shall surpass in wickedness all who were before him*⁷; (he says, not only the ten, but also all who have been before him;) *and he shall subdue three kings*; manifestly out of the ten former kings: but it is plain that by subduing three of these ten, he will become the eighth king; *and he shall speak words against the Most High*⁸. A blasphemer the man is and lawless, not having received the kingdom from his fathers, but having usurped the power by means of sorcery.

14. And who is this, and from what sort of working? Interpret to us, O Paul. *Whose coming*, he says, *is after the working of Satan, with all power and signs and lying wonders*⁹; implying, that Satan has used him as an instrument, working in his own person through him; for knowing that his judgment shall now no longer have respite, he wages war no more by his ministers, as is his wont, but henceforth by himself more openly¹⁰. And *with all signs and lying wonders*; for the father of falsehood will make a show¹¹ of the works of falsehood, that the multitudes may think that they see a dead man raised, who is not raised, and lame men walking, and blind men seeing, when the cure has not been wrought.

15. And again he says, *Who opposeth and exalteth himself against all that is called God, or that is worshipped; (against every God; Antichrist forsooth will abhor the idols,) so that he seateth himself in the temple of God*¹². What temple then? He means, the Temple of the Jews which has been destroyed. For God forbid that it should be the one in which we are! Why say we this? That we may not be supposed to favour ourselves. For if he comes to the Jews as Christ, and desires to be worshipped by the Jews, he will make great account of the Temple, that he may more completely beguile them; making it supposed that he is the man of the race of David, who shall build up the Temple which was erected by Solomon¹³. And Antichrist will come at the time when there shall not be left one stone upon another in the Temple of the Jews, according to the doom pronounced by our Saviour¹⁴; for when, either

¹Iren. V. 28, § 2: "Since the demons and apostate spirits are at his service, he through their means performs wonders, by which he leads the inhabitants of the earth astray."

²Iren. V. 25, § 4: "He shall remove his kingdom into that city (Jerusalem), and shall sit in the Temple of God, leading astray those who worship him as if he were Christ."

According to the genuine treatise of Hippolytus Antichrist was to restore the kingdom of the Jews (*De Antichristo*, § 25), to collect the Jews out of every country of the Dispersion, making them his own, as though they were his own children, and promising to restore their country, and establish again their kingdom and nation, in order that he may be worshipped by them as God (§ 54), and he will lead them on to persecute the saints, i.e. the Christians (§ 56). Compare the elaborate description of Antichrist and his cruelty in Lactantius, *Div. Inst.* vii. 17; *Epit.* § 71.

³[2 Thess. ii. 8.](#) Cf. Iren. V. 25, § 3: Hippol. § 64.

⁴ἐκκλησιαζομένων. Cf. Cat. iv. 35, 36, where Cyril distinguishes the Scriptures ἅς καὶ ἐν Ἐκκλησίᾳ μετὰ παρορησίας ἀναγινώσκομεν from ὅσα ἐν Ἐκκλησίᾳ μὴ ἀναγινώσκεται.

⁵[Dan. vii. 23:](#) (R.V.) *shall be diverse from all the kingdoms.*

⁶Irenæus (V. 26) identifies the fourth kingdom with “the empire which now rules.” Hippolytus, *de Antichristo*, § 25: “A fourth beast dreadful and terrible: it had iron teeth and claws of brass. And who are these but the Romans?”

⁷[Dan. vii. 24.](#)

⁸[Dan. v. 25.](#) Dean Church compares [Rev. xvii. 11:](#) *And the beast that was, and is not, even he is the eighth, and is of the seven, and goeth into perdition.* See also Iren. V. 26, § 1.

⁹[2 Thess. ii. 9.](#) Lactantius (A.D. 300 *circ.*), *Div. Inst.* vii. 17: “that king....will also be a prophet of lies; and he will constitute and call himself God, and will order himself to be worshipped as the Son of God; and power will be given him to do signs and wonders, by the sight of which he may entice men to adore him.” Cf. *Epitome*, lxxi.

¹⁰“Vid. Iren. *Hær* V. 26, 2” (R.W.C.). The passage is quoted by Eusebius (*Eccl. Hist.* iv. 18), from a lost work of Justin M. *Against Marcion*: “Justin well said that before the coming of the Lord Satan never dared to blaspheme God, as not yet knowing his own condemnation, because it was started by the prophets in parables and allegories. But after our Lord’s advent having learnt plainly from His words and those of the Apostles that everlasting fire is prepared for him,....he by means of such men as these blasphemes the Lord who brings the judgment upon him, as being already condemned.”

S. Cyril seems to expect that Antichrist will be an incarnation of Satan, as did Hippolytus (*de Antichr.* § 6): “The Saviour appeared in the form of man, and he too will come in the form of a man.”

¹¹φαντασιοκοπεῖ. See above, § 10, note 9, and the equivalent phrase in § 17: σημείων καὶ τεράτων φαντασίας ἐδείκνυον.

¹²[2 Thess. ii. 4.](#)

¹³See § 12, notes 3, 4, and Hippolytus, *ubi supra*: “The Saviour raised up and shewed His holy flesh like a temple; and he will raise a temple of stone in Jerusalem.” “Cyril wrote this before Julian’s attempt to rebuild the Jewish Temple” (R.W.C.).

¹⁴[Matt. xxiv. 2.](#) Cyril refers the whole prophecy to the time of Christ’s second coming at the end of the world, not regarding the destruction of Jerusalem and its Temple by Titus as fulfilling any part of the prediction.

decay of time, or demolition ensuing on pretence of new buildings, or from any other causes, shall have overthrown all the stones, I mean not merely of the outer circuit, but of the inner shrine also, where the Cherubim were, then shall he come *with all signs and lying wonders*, exalting himself against all idols; at first indeed making a pretence of benevolence, but afterwards displaying his relentless temper, and that chiefly against the Saints of God. For he says, *I beheld, and the same horn made war with the saints*¹; and again elsewhere, *there shall be a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation upon earth, even to that same time*². Dreadful is that beast, a mighty dragon, unconquerable by man, ready to devour; concerning whom though we have more things to speak out of the divine Scriptures, yet we will content ourselves at present with thus much, in order to keep within compass.

16. For this cause the Lord knowing the greatness of the adversary grants indulgence to the godly, saying, *Then let them which be in Judæa flee to the mountains*³. But if any man is conscious that he is very stout-hearted, to

encounter Satan, let him stand (for I do not despair of the Church's nerves), and let him say, *Who shall separate us from the love of Christ and the rest*⁴? But, let those of us who are fearful provide for our own safety; and those who are of a good courage, stand fast: *for then shall be great tribulation, such as hath not been from the beginning of the world until now, no, nor ever shall be*⁵. But thanks be to God who hath confined the greatness of that tribulation to a few days; for He says, *But for the elect's sake those days shall be shortened*⁶; and Antichrist shall reign for three years and a half only. We speak not from apocryphal books, but from Daniel; for he says, *And they shall be given into his hand until a time and times and half a time*⁷. A time is the one year in which his coming shall for a while have increase; and the times are the remaining two years of iniquity, making up the sum of the three years; and the half a time is the six months. And again in another place Daniel says the same thing, *And he sware by Him that liveth for ever that it shall be for a time, and times, and half a time*⁸. And some peradventure have referred what follows also to this; namely, *a thousand two hundred and ninety days*⁹; and this, *Blessed is he that endureth and cometh to the thousand three hundred and five and thirty days*¹⁰. For this cause we must hide ourselves and flee; for perhaps we shall not have gone over the cities of Israel, till the Son of Man be come¹¹.

17. Who then is the blessed man, that shall at that time devoutly witness for Christ? For I say that the Martyrs of that time excel all martyrs. For the Martyrs hitherto have wrestled with men only; but in the time of Antichrist they shall do battle with Satan in his own person¹². And former persecuting kings only put to death; they did not pretend to raise the dead, nor did they make false shows¹³ of signs and wonders. But in his time there shall be the evil inducement both of fear and of deceit, so that if it be possible the very elect shall be deceived¹⁴. Let it never enter into the heart of any then alive to ask, "What did Christ more? For by what power does this man work these things? Were it not God's will, He would not have allowed them." The Apostle warns thee, and says beforehand, *And for this cause God shall send them a working of error; (send, that is, shall allow to happen;)* not that they might make excuse, but that they might be condemned¹⁵. Wherefore? They, he says, who believed not the truth, that is, the true Christ, but had pleasure in unrighteousness, that is, in Antichrist. But as in the persecutions which happen from time to time, so also then God will permit these things, not because He wants power to hinder them, but because according to His wont He will through patience crown His own champions like as He did His Prophets and Apostles; to the end that having toiled for a little while they may inherit the eternal kingdom of heaven, according to that which Daniel says, *And at that time thy people shall be delivered, every one that shall be found written in the book* (manifestly, the book of life); *and many of them that sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, and same to shame and everlasting contempt; and they that be wise shall shine as the brightness of the firmament; and of the many righteous*¹⁶, as the stars for ever and ever.

¹[Dan. vii. 21](#). Here again Cyril follows Hippolytus, § 25: "And under this (horn) was signified none other than Antichrist.

²[Dan. 12.1](#).

³[Matt. xxiv. 16](#).

⁴[Rom. viii. 35](#).

⁵[Matt. xxiv. 21](#).

⁶[Matt. 24.22](#).

⁷[Dan. vii. 25](#). By "apocryphal" books Cyril probably means all such as were not allowed to be read in the public service of the Church: see Cat. iv. 33, note 3; and Bp. Westcott's note on the various meanings of the word ἀπόκρυφος, *Hist. of the Canon*, P. III. c. 1. That the Apocalypse of St. John is included under this term by Cyril, appears probable from the following reasons suggested by the Benedictine Editor. (1) It is not mentioned in the list of the Canonical Scriptures in iv. 36. (2) The earlier writers whom Cyril follows in this Lecture, Irenæus, *Hær. V.*, 26, § 1, and Hippolytus, *De Antichristo*, § 34, combine the testimony of the Apocalypse with that of Daniel. The omission in Cyril therefore cannot have been accidental.

⁸[Dan. xii. 7](#).

⁹[Dan. 12.11.](#)

¹⁰[Dan. 12.12.](#)

¹¹[Matt. x. 23.](#)

¹²αὐτοπροσώπως . See above, § 14, note 2. Some MSS. read ἀντιπροσώπως, “face to face,” as in xii. 32, ἀντιπρόσωπος.

¹³See above, § 14, note 3.

¹⁴[Matt. xxiv. 24.](#)

¹⁵[2 Thess. ii. 11, 12:](#) (R.V.) *That they all might be judged.* Cyril has κατακριθῶσι

¹⁶[Dan. xii. 1, 2:](#) (R.V.) *they that turn many to righteousness.* Cyril follows the rendering of the Septuagint, ἀπὸ τῶν δικαίων τῶν πολλῶν, which gives no proper construction.

110

18. Guard thyself then, O man; thou hast the signs of Antichrist; and remember them not only thyself, but impart them also freely to all. If thou hast a child according to the flesh, admonish him of this now; if thou hast begotten one through catechizing¹, put him also on his guard, lest he receive the false one as the True. For the *mystery of iniquity doth already work*². I fear these wars of the nations³; I fear the schisms of the Churches; I fear the mutual hatred of the brethren. But enough on this subject; only God forbid that it should be fulfilled in our days; nevertheless, let us be on our guard. And thus much concerning Antichrist.

19. But let us wait and look for the Lord's coming upon the clouds from heaven. Then shall Angelic trumpets sound; *the dead in Christ shall rise first*⁴,—the godly persons who are alive shall be caught up in the clouds, receiving as the reward of their labours more than human honour, inasmuch as theirs was a more than human strife; according as the Apostle Paul writes, saying, *For the Lord Himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the Archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first. Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air; and so shall we ever be with the Lord*⁵.

20. This coming of the Lord, and the end of the world, were known to the Preacher; who says, *Rejoice, O young man, in thy youth, and the rest*⁶; *Therefore remove anger*⁷ *from thy heart, and put away evil from thy flesh;...and remember thy Creator...or ever the evil days come*⁸,.....*or ever the sun, and the light, and the moon, and the stars be darkened*⁹,.....*and they that look out of the windows be darkened*¹⁰; (signifying the faculty of sight;) *or ever the silver cord be loosed*; (meaning the assemblage of the stars, for their appearance is like silver;) *and the flower of gold be broken*¹¹; (thus veiling the mention of the golden sun; for the camomile is a well-known plant, having many ray-like leaves shooting out round it;) *and they shall rise up at the voice of the sparrow, yea, they shall look away from the height, and terrors shall be in the way*¹². What shall they see? *Then shall they see the Son of man coming on the clouds of heaven; and they shall mourn tribe by tribe*¹³. And what shall come to pass when the Lord is come? *The almond tree shall blossom, and the grasshopper shall grow heavy, and the caper-berry shall be scattered abroad*¹⁴. And as the interpreters say, the blossoming almond signifies the departure of winter; and our bodies shall then after the winter blossom with a heavenly flower¹⁵. *And the grasshopper shall grow in substance* (that means the winged soul clothing itself with the body¹⁶), *and the caper-berry shall be scattered abroad* (that is, the transgressors who are like thorns shall be scattered¹⁷).

21. Thou seest how they all foretell the coming of the Lord. Thou seest how they know *the voice of the sparrow*. Let us know what sort of voice this is. *For the Lord Himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the Archangel, and with the trump of God*¹⁸. The Archangel shall make proclamation and say to all, *Arise to meet the Lord*¹⁹. And fearful will be that descent of our Master. David says, *God shall manifestly come, even our God, and shall not keep silence; a fire shall burn before Him, and a fierce tempest round about Him, and the*

rest²⁰. The Son of Man shall come to the Father, according to the Scripture which was just now read, *on the clouds of heaven*, drawn by *a stream of fire*²¹, which is to make trial of men. Then if any man's works are of gold, he shall be made brighter; if any man's course of life be like stubble, and unsubstantial, it shall be burnt up by the fire²². And the Father *shall sit*, having *His garment white as snow, and the hair of His head like pure wool*²³. But this is spoken after the manner of men; wherefore? Because He is the King of those who

¹Compare [1 Cor. iv. 15](#): *I begat you through the gospel*. Clem. Alex. *Strom.* iii. c. 15: τῷ διὰ τῆς ἀληθοῦς κατηχήσεως γεννήσαντι κεῖται τις μισθός.

²[2 Thess. ii. 7](#).

³See above, §§ 6, 7.

⁴[1 Thes. iv. 16](#).

⁵[1 Thess. 4.16,17](#).

⁶[Eccles. xi. 9](#). The Preacher's description of old age and death is interpreted by Cyril of the end of the world, as it had been a century before by Gregory Thaumaturgus, in his paraphrase of the book.

⁷Ib. [vEccles. 11.10](#): (R.V.) *sorrow*. Marg. Or, *vexation*, Or, *provocation*.

⁸[Eccles. 12.1](#).

⁹[Eccles. 12.2](#).

¹⁰[Eccles. 12.3](#).

¹¹[Eccles. 12.6](#). According to the usual interpretation death is here represented by the breaking of a chain and the lamp which hangs from it. Cf. Delitzsch, and *Speaker's Commentary*, in loc. for other interpretations.

τὸ ἀνθέμιον τοῦ χρυσίου (Sept.), by which Cyril understood camomile (ἀνθεμῖς), more probably meant a pattern of flowers embossed on the vessel of gold: *vid.* Xenoph. *Anab.* V. 4, § 32: ἐστιγμένους ἀνθέμια, "damasked with flowers."

¹²[Eccles. xii. 5](#). Cyril means rightly that the aged shrink from a giddy height, and from imaginary dangers of the road. For *the voice of the sparrow*, see below, § 21, note 4.

¹³[Matt. xxiv. 30](#); [Zech. xii. 12](#).

¹⁴[Eccles. xii. 5](#).

¹⁵"Dr. Thomson (*The Land and the Book*, p. 319) says of the almond tree, "It is the type of old age, whose hair is white" (*Speaker's Commentary*).

¹⁶The step, once as active as a *grasshopper*, or locust, shall grow heavy and slow. For other interpretations see Delitzsch.

¹⁷*The caper-berry* (κάπαρις) *shall fail*, i.e. no longer stimulate appetite. But διασχεδασθήσεται (Sept. Cyril) means that the old man shall be like a caper-berry which when fully ripe bursts it husks and scatters its seeds: so R.V. (Margin); *The caper-berry shall burst*. Greg. Thaum. *Metaphr. Eccles.* "The transgressors are cast out of the way, like a black and despicable caper-plant."

¹⁸[1 Thes. ii. 16.](#)

¹⁹Compare the spurious *Apocalypse of John*: "And at the voice of the bird every plant shall arise; that is, At the voice of the Archangel all the human race shall arise" (English Trs. *Ante-Nic. Libr.* p. 496). According to the Talmud the meaning is, "Even a bird awakes him" (Delitzsch).

²⁰[Ps. I. 3.](#)

²¹[Dan. vii. 13, 10.](#)

²²[1 Cor. iii. 12, 13.](#) On ἀνυπόστατον, see Index. On δοκιμαστικόν, compare *The Teaching of the Apostles*, § 16: "Then all created mankind shall come to the fire of testing (δοκιμασίας), and many shall be offended and perish."

²³[Dan. vii. 9.](#)

 111

have not been defiled with sins; for, He says, *I will make your sins white as snow, and as wool*¹, which is an emblem of forgiveness of sins, or of sinlessness itself. But the Lord who shall come from heaven on the clouds, is He who ascended on the clouds; for He Himself hath said, *And they shall see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven, with power and great glory*².

22. But what is the sign of His coming? lest a hostile power dare to counterfeit it. *And then shall appear*, He says, *the sign of the Son of Man in heaven*³. Now Christ's own true sign is the Cross; a sign of a luminous Cross shall go before the King⁴, plainly declaring Him who was formerly crucified: that the Jews who before *pierced Him* and plotted against Him, when they see it, may *mourn tribe by tribe*⁵, saying, "This is He who was buffeted, this is He whose face they spat on, this is He whom they bound with chains, this is He whom of old they crucified, and set at nought⁶. Whither, they will say, shall we flee from the face of Thy wrath?" But the Angel hosts shall encompass them, so that they shall not be able to flee anywhere. The sign of the Cross shall be a terror to His foes; but joy to His friends who have believed in Him, or preached Him, or suffered for His sake. Who then is the happy man, who shall then be found a friend of Christ? That King, so great and glorious, attended by the Angel-guards, the partner of the Father's throne, will not despise His own servants. For that His Elect may not be confused with His foes, *He shall send forth His Angels with a great trumpet, and they shall gather together His elect from the four winds*⁷. He despised not Lot, who was but one; how then shall He despise many righteous? *Come, ye blessed of My Father*⁸, will He say to them who shall then ride on chariots of clouds, and be assembled by Angels.

23. But some one present will say, "I am a poor man," or again, "I shall perhaps be found at that time sick in bed;" or, "I am but a woman, and I shall be taken at the mill: shall we then be despised?" Be of good courage, O man; the Judge is no respecter of persons; *He will not judge according to a man's appearance, nor reprove according to his speech*⁹. He honours not the learned before the simple, nor the rich before the needy. Though thou be in the field, the Angels shall take thee; think not that He will take the landowners, and leave thee the husbandman. Though thou be a slave, though thou be poor, be not any whit distressed; He who *took the form of a servant*¹⁰ despises not servants. Though thou be lying sick in bed, yet it is written, *Then shall two be in one bed; the one shall be taken, and the other left*¹¹. Though thou be of compulsion put to grind, whether thou be man or woman¹²; though thou be in fetters¹³, and sit beside the mill, yet He *who by His might bringeth out them that are bound*¹⁴, will not overlook thee. He who brought forth Joseph out of slavery and prison to a kingdom, shall redeem thee also from thy afflictions into the kingdom of heaven. Only be of good cheer, only work, only strive earnestly; for nothing shall be lost. Every prayer of thine, every Psalm thou singest is recorded; every alms-deed, every fast is recorded; every marriage duly observed is recorded; continence¹⁵ kept for God's sake is recorded; but the first crowns in the records are those of virginity and purity; and thou shalt shine as an Angel. But as thou hast gladly listened to the good things, so listen again without shrinking to the contrary. Every covetous deed of thine is recorded; thine every act of fornication is recorded, thine every false oath is recorded, every blasphemy, and sorcery, and theft, and murder. All these things are henceforth to be recorded, if thou do the same now after having been baptized; for thy former deeds are blotted out.

24. *When the Son of Man, He says, shall come in His glory, and all the Angels with Him*¹⁶. Behold, O man, before what multitudes thou shalt come to judgment. Every race of mankind will then be present. Reckon, therefore, how many are the Roman nation; reckon how many the barbarian tribes now living, and how many have died within the last hundred years; reckon how many nations have been buried during the last thousand years; reckon all from Adam to this day. Great indeed is the multitude; but yet it is

¹[Is. i. 18.](#)

²[Matt. xxiv. 30.](#)

³[Matt. 24.30.](#)

⁴Cat. xiii. 4. In the letter to Constantius, three or four years later than this Lecture, Cyril treats the appearance at that time of a luminous Cross in the sky as a fulfilment of [Matt. xxiv. 30](#): but he there adds (*Ep. ad Constantium*, § 6) that our Lord's prediction "was both fulfilled at that present time, and shall again be fulfilled more largely." On the opinion that "the sign of the Son of Man in heaven" should be the Cross, see Suicer, *Thesaurus*, Σταυρός. It is not improbable that the earliest trace of this interpretation is found in *The Teaching of the Apostles*, § 16: "Then shall appear the signs of the Truth: the first the sign of a (cross) spreading out (ἐκπετάσεως) in heaven."

⁵[Zech. xii. 12.](#)

⁶Cf. Barnab. *Epist.* c. vii.: "For they shall see Him in that day wearing the long scarlet robes about His flesh, and shall say, Is not this He, whom once we crucified, and set at nought, and spat upon (*al.* and pierced, and mocked)?"

⁷[Matt. xxiv. 31.](#)

⁸[Matt. 25.34.](#)

⁹[Is. xi. 3:](#) (R.V.) *He shall not judge after the sight of his eyes, nor reprove after the hearing of his ears.*

¹⁰[Phil. ii. 7.](#)

¹¹[Luke xvii. 34.](#)

¹²[Luke 17.35.](#)

¹³The Jerusalem ms. (A) alone has the true reading πέδας, which is confirmed by πεπεδημένους in the quotation following, instead of παῖδας, which is quite inappropriate, and evidently an itacism.

¹⁴[Ex. xi. 5.](#)

¹⁵Εγκράτεια. "Id est viduitas" (Ben. Ed.). This special reference of the word to widowhood is to some extent confirmed by [1 Cor. vii. 9](#): εἰ δὲ οὐκ ἐγκρατεύονται, and is rendered highly probable by Cyril's separate mention of marriage and virginity.

¹⁶[Matt. xxv. 31.](#)

little, for the Angels are many more. They are *the ninety and nine sheep*, but mankind is the single *one*¹. For according to the extent of universal space, must we reckon the number of its inhabitants. The whole earth is but as a point in the midst of the one heaven, and yet contains so great a multitude; what a multitude must the heaven

which encircles it contain? And must not the heaven of heavens contain unimaginable numbers²? And it is written, *Thousand thousands ministered unto Him, and ten thousand times ten thousand stood before Him*³; not that the multitude is only so great, but because the Prophet could not express more than these. So there will be present at the judgment in that day, God, the Father of all, Jesus Christ being seated with Him, and the Holy Ghost present with Them; and an angel's trumpet shall summon us all to bring our deeds with us. Ought we not then from this time forth to be sore troubled? Think it not a slight doom, O man, even apart from punishment, to be condemned in the presence of so many. Shall we not choose rather to die many deaths, than be condemned by friends?

25. Let us dread then, brethren, lest God condemn us; who needs not examination or proofs, to condemn. Say not, In the night I committed fornication, or wrought sorcery, or did any other thing, and there was no man by. Out of thine own conscience shalt thou be judged, thy *thoughts the meanwhile accusing or else excusing, in the day when God shall judge the secrets of men*⁴. The terrible countenance of the Judge will force thee to speak the truth; or rather, even though thou speak not, it will convict thee. For thou shalt rise clothed with thine own sins, or else with thy righteous deeds. And this has the Judge Himself declared—for it is Christ who judges—for *neither doth the Father judge any man, but he hath given all judgment unto the Son*⁵, not divesting Himself of His power, but judging through the Son; the Son therefore judgeth by the will⁶ of the Father; for the wills of the Father and of the Son are not different, but one and the same. What then says the Judge, as to whether thou shalt bear thy works, or no? *And before Him shall they gather all nations*⁷: (for in the presence of Christ *every knee must bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth*⁸;) *and He shall separate them one from another, as the shepherd divideth his sheep from the goats*. How does the shepherd make the separation? Does he examine out of a book which is a sheep and which a goat? or does he distinguish by their evident marks? Does not the wool show the sheep, and the hairy and rough skin the goat? In like manner, if thou hast been just now cleansed from thy sins, thy deeds shall be henceforth as pure wool; and thy robe shall remain unstained, and thou shalt ever say, *I have put off my coat, how shall I put it on*⁹? By thy vesture shalt thou be known for a sheep. But if thou be found hairy, like Esau, who was rough with hair, and wicked in mind, who for food lost his birthright and sold his privilege, thou shalt be one of those on the left hand. But God forbid that any here present should be cast out from grace, or for evil deeds be found among the ranks of the sinners on the left hand!

26. Terrible in good truth is the judgment, and terrible the things announced. The kingdom of heaven is set before us, and everlasting fire is prepared. How then, some one will say, are we to escape the fire? And how to enter into the kingdom? *I was an hungered*, He says, *and ye gave Me meat*. Learn hence the way; there is here no need of allegory, but to fulfil what is said. *I was an hungered, and ye gave Me meat; I was thirsty, and ye gave Me drink; I was a stranger, and ye took Me in; naked, and ye clothed Me; I was sick, and ye visited Me; I was in prison, and ye came unto Me*¹⁰. These things if thou do, thou shalt reign together with Him; but if thou do them not, thou shalt be condemned. At once then begin to do these works, and abide in the faith; lest, like the foolish virgins, tarrying to buy oil, thou be shut out. Be not confident because thou merely possessest the lamp, but constantly keep it burning. Let the light of thy good works shine before men¹¹, and let not Christ be blasphemed on thy account. Wear thou a garment of incorruption¹², resplendent in good works; and whatever matter thou receivest from God to administer as a steward, administer profitably. Hast thou been put in trust with riches? Dispense them well. Hast thou been entrusted with the word of teaching? Be a good steward thereof. Canst thou attach the souls of the hearers¹³? Do this diligently.

¹Matt. xviii. 12; Luke xv. 4. Ambrose, *Expos. in Luc.* VII. 210: "Rich is that shepherd of whose flock we are but the one hundredth part. Of Angels and Archangels, of Dominions, Powers, Thrones, and others He hath countless flocks, whom He hath left upon the mountains." Cf. Gregor, Nyss. *Contra Eunom.* Or. xii.

²There is much variation in the reading and punctuation of this passage. I have followed the text adopted by the Jerusalem Editor with Codd. A. Roe. Casaub. and Grodecq, in preference to the Benedictine text, with which the Editor himself is dissatisfied.

³Dan. vii. 10.

⁴Rom. ii. 15, 16.

⁵John v. 22.

⁶νεύματι. Cat. xi. 22.

⁷Matt. xxv. 32.

⁸Phil. ii. 10.

⁹Song of Sol. 5.3. Compare Cat. iii. 7; xx. (Mystag. ii.) 2.

¹⁰Matt. xxv. 35.

¹¹Matt. v. 16.

¹²The prayer for the Catechumens in the *Apostolic Constitutions*, viii. 6, contains a petition that God would “vouchsafe to them the laver of regeneration, and the garment of incorruption, which is the true life.”

¹³προσθεῖναι. Cf. [Acts ii. 41](#): προσετέθησαν. According to some mss. the sentence would run thus: “Hast thou been entrusted with the word of teaching? Be a good steward of thy hearers’ souls. Hast thou power to rule (προσστηναι)? Do this diligently.”

113

There are many doors of good stewardship. Only let none of us be condemned and cast out; that we may with boldness meet Christ the Everlasting King, who reigns for ever. For He doth reign for ever, who shall be judge of quick and dead, because for quick and dead He died. And as Paul says, *For to this end Christ both died and lived again, that He might be Lord both of the dead and living*¹.

27. And shouldest thou ever hear any say that the kingdom of Christ shall have an end, abhor the heresy; it is another head of the dragon, lately sprung up in . A certain one has dared to affirm, that after the end of the world Christ shall reign no longer²; he has also dared to say, that the Word having come forth from the Father shall be again absorbed into the Father, and shall be no more³; uttering such blasphemies to his own perdition. For he has not listened to the Lord, saying, The Son abideth for ever⁴. He has not listened to Gabriel, saying, And He shall reign over the house of Jacob for ever, and of His kingdom there shall be no end⁵. Consider this text. Heretics of this day teach in disparagement of Christ, while Gabriel the Archangel taught the eternal abiding of the Saviour; whom then wilt thou rather believe? wilt thou not rather give credence to Gabriel? Listen to the testimony of Daniel in the text⁶; I saw in a vision of the night, and behold, one like the Son of Man came with the clouds of heaven, and came to the Ancient of days.....And to Him was given the honour, and the dominion, and the kingdom: and all peoples, tribes, and languages shall serve Him; His dominion is an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and His kingdom shall not be destroyed⁷. These things rather hold fast, these things believe, and cast away from thee the words of heresy; for thou hast heard most plainly of the endless kingdom of Christ.

28. The like doctrine thou has also in the interpretation of the *Stone, which was cut out of a mountain without hands*, which is *Christ according to the flesh*⁸; *And His kingdom shall not be left to another people*. David also says in one place, *Thy throne, O God, is for ever and ever*⁹; and in another place, *Thou, Lord, in the beginning hast laid the foundations of the earth, &c., they shall perish, but Thou remainest, &c.; but Thou art the same, and Thy years shall not fail*¹⁰: words which Paul has interpreted of the Son¹¹.

29. And wouldest thou know how they who teach the contrary ran into such madness? They read wrongly that good word of the Apostle, *For He must reign, till He hath put all enemies under His feet*¹²; and they say, when His enemies shall have been put under His feet, He shall cease to reign, wrongly and foolishly alleging this. For He who is king before He has subdued His enemies, how shall He not the rather be king, after He has gotten the mastery over them.

30. They have also dared to say that the Scripture, *When all things shall be subjected unto Him, then shall the Son also Himself be subjected unto Him that subjected all things unto Him*¹³,—that this Scripture shews that the Son also shall be absorbed into the Father. Shall ye then, O most impious of all men, ye the creatures of Christ,

continue? and shall Christ perish, by whom both you and all things were made? Such a word is blasphemous. But further, how shall all things be made subject unto Him? By perishing, or by abiding? Shall then the other things, when subject to the Son abide, and shall the Son, when subject to the Father, not abide? For He shall be subjected, not because He shall then begin to do the Father's will (for from eternity He *doth* always *those things that please Him*¹⁴), but because, then as before, He obeys the Father, yielding, not a forced obedience, but a self-chosen accordance; for He is not a servant, that He should be subjected by force, but a Son, that He should comply of His free choice and natural love.

¹[Rom. xiv. 9.](#)

²Marcellus, Bishop of Ancyra, and his pupil Photinus, are anathematized in the Creed called Μακρόστιχος as holding that Christ first became "Son of God when He took our flesh from the Virgin....For they will have it that then Christ began His Kingdom, and that it will have an end after the consummation of all and the judgment. Such are the disciples of Marcellus and Scotinus of Galatian Ancyra, &c." See Newman on Athanasius, *de Synodis*, § 26, (5), notes *a* and *b*. Compare the description of Marcellus in the Letter of the Oriental Bishops who had withdrawn from the Council of Sardica to Philippopolis (A.D. 344). "There has arisen in our days a certain Marcellus of Galatia, the most execrable pest of all heretics, who with sacrilegious mind, and impious mouth, and wicked argument seeks to set bounds to the perpetual, eternal, and timeless kingdom of our Lord Christ, saying that He began to reign four hundred years since, and shall end at the dissolution of the present world" (Hilar. Pictav. *Ex Opere Hist. Fragm.* iii.).

³"The person meant by Cyril, though he withholds the name, is Marcellus of Ancyra; who having written a book against the Arian Sophist Asterius to explain the Apostle's statement concerning the subjection of the Son to the Father, was thought to be renewing the heresy of Paul of Samosata. On this account he was reproved by the Bishops at the Council of Jerusalem, A.D. 335, for holding false opinions, and being ordered to recant his opinions promised to burn his book. Afterwards he applied to Constantine, by whom he was remitted to the Council of Constantinople, A.D. 336, and deposed by the Bishops. As however he was acquitted by the Councils of Rome, A.D. 342, and of Sardica, A.D. 347, it became a matter of dispute whether he was really heretical....From the fragments of his books transcribed by Eusebius, you may possibly acquit him of the Sabellian heresy and the confusion of the Father and the Son, but certainly not of the heresy concerning the end of Christ's kingdom, and the abandonment by the Word of the human nature which He assumed for our sake; so express are his words recorded by Eusebius in the beginning of the 2nd Book *Contra Marcellum*, pp. 50, 51." (Ben. Ed.) Cf. *Dict. Chr. Biogr.* "Eusebius of Cæsarea," p. 341; and note 3 on § 9 above.

⁴[John viii. 25.](#)

⁵[Luke i. 33.](#)

⁶τὴν παροῦσαν.

⁷[Dan. vii. 13, 14.](#)

⁸[Dan. 2.45;](#) [Rom. 9.5.](#)

⁹[Ps. xlv. 6.](#)

¹⁰[Psa. 102.25-27.](#)

¹¹[Heb. i. 10-12.](#)

¹²¹[1 Cor. xv. 25.](#)

¹³¹[1 Cor. xv. 28.](#) Theodoret *Comment. in Epist. i. ad Cor.* xv. 28: "This passage the followers of Arius and Eunomius carry continually on their tongue, thinking in this way to disparage the dignity of the Only-begotten."

¹⁴[John viii. 29.](#)

114

31. But let us examine them; what is the meaning of “until” or “as long as?” For with the very phrase will I close with them, and try to overthrow their error. Since they have dared to say that the words, *till He hath put His enemies under His feet*, shew that He Himself shall have an end, and have presumed to set bounds to the eternal kingdom of Christ, and to bring to an end, as far as words go, His never-ending sovereignty, come then, let us read the like expressions in the Apostle: *Nevertheless, death reigned from Adam till Moses*¹. Did men then die up to that time, and did none die any more after Moses, or after the Law has there been no more death among men? Well then, thou seest that the word “unto” is not to limit time; but that Paul rather signified this,—“And yet, though Moses was a righteous and wonderful man, nevertheless the doom of death, which was uttered against Adam, reached even unto him, and them that came after him; and this, though they had not committed the like sins as Adam, by his disobedience in eating of the tree.”

32. Take again another similar text. *For until this day...when Moses is read, a vail lieth upon their heart*². Does *until this day* mean only “until Paul?” Is it not *until this day* present, and even to the end? And if Paul say to the Corinthians, *For we came even as far as unto you in preaching the Gospel of Christ, having hope when your faith increases to preach the Gospel in the regions beyond you*³, thou seest manifestly that *as far as* implies not the end, but has something following it. In what *sense then shouldst thou remember that Scripture, till He hath put all enemies under His feet*⁴? According as Paul says in another place, *And exhort each other daily, while it is called to-day*⁵; meaning, “continually.” For as we may not speak of the “beginning of the days” of Christ, so neither suffer thou that any should ever speak of the end of His kingdom. For it is written, *His kingdom is an everlasting kingdom*⁶.

33. And though I have many more testimonies out of the divine Scriptures, concerning the kingdom of Christ which has no end for ever, I will be content at present with those above mentioned, because the day is far spent. But thou, O hearer, worship only Him as thy King, and flee all heretical error. And if the grace of God permit us, the remaining Articles also of the Faith shall be in good time declared to you. And may the God of the whole world keep you all in safety, bearing in mind the signs of the end, and remaining unsubdued by Antichrist. Thou hast received the tokens of the Deceiver who is to come; thou hast received the proofs of the true Christ, who shall openly come down from heaven. Flee therefore the one, the False one; and look for the other, the True. Thou hast learnt the way, how in the judgment thou mayest be found among those on the right hand; guard *that which is committed to thee*⁷ concerning Christ, and be conspicuous in good works, that thou mayest stand with a good confidence before the Judge, and inherit the kingdom of heaven:—Through whom, and with whom, be glory to God with the Holy Ghost, for ever and ever. Amen.

¹[Rom. v. 14.](#) “ἄχρι from ἄκρος, as μέχρι from μῆκος, μακρός” (L. and Sc.). It is not always possible to mark this distinction in translation: cf. Lobeck, *Phrynichus*, p. 14; Viger, *De Idiot. Gr.* p. 419.

²[2 Cor. iii. 14, 15.](#)

³[2 Cor. 10.14-16.](#)

⁴[1 Cor. xv. 25.](#)

⁵[Heb. iii. 13.](#)

⁶[Dan. vii. 14, 27.](#)

⁷[1 Tim. vi. 20.](#)

115

Lecture XVI.

On the Article, And in One Holy Ghost, the Comforter, Which Spake in the Prophets.

[1 CORINTHIANS XII. 1, 4](#)

Now concerning spiritual gifts, brethren, I would not have you ignorant....Now there are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit, &c.

1. SPIRITUAL in truth is the grace we need, in order to discourse concerning the Holy Spirit; not that we may speak what is worthy of Him, for this is impossible, but that by speaking the words of the divine Scriptures, we may run our course without danger. For a truly fearful thing is written in the Gospels, where Christ has plainly said, *Whosoever shall speak a word against the Holy Ghost, it shall not be forgiven him, neither in this world, nor in that which is to come*¹. And there is often fear, lest a man should receive this condemnation, through speaking what he ought not concerning Him, either from ignorance, or from supposed reverence. The Judge of quick and dead, Jesus Christ, declared that he hath no forgiveness; if therefore any man offend, what hope has he?
2. It must therefore belong to Jesus Christ's grace itself to grant both to us to speak without deficiency, and to you to hear with discretion; for discretion is needful not to them only who speak, but also to them that hear, lest they hear one thing, and misconceive another in their mind. Let us then speak concerning the Holy Ghost nothing but what is written; and whatsoever is not written, let us not busy ourselves about it. The Holy Ghost Himself spoke the Scriptures; He has also spoken concerning Himself as much as He pleased, or as much as we could receive. Let us therefore speak those things which He has said; for whatsoever He has not said, we dare not say.
3. There is One Only Holy Ghost, the Comforter; and as there is One God the Father, and no second Father;—and as there is One Only-begotten Son and Word of God, who hath no brother;—so is there One Only Holy Ghost, and no second spirit equal in-honour to Him. Now the Holy Ghost is a Power most mighty, a Being divine and unsearchable; for He is living and intelligent, a sanctifying principle of all things made by God through Christ. He it is who illuminates the souls of the just; He was in the Prophets, He was also in the Apostles in the New Testament. Abhorred be they who dare to separate the operation of the Holy Ghost! There is One God, the Father, Lord of the Old and of the New Testament: and One Lord, Jesus Christ, who was prophesied of in the Old Testament, and came in the New; and One Holy Ghost, who through the Prophets preached of Christ, and when Christ was come, descended, and manifested Him².

¹[Matt. xii. 32.](#)

²At the end of this section there follows in the Coislin ms. a long interpolation consisting of two parts. The former is an extract taken word for word from Gregory of Nyssa, *Oratio Catechetica*, ii. c, which may be read in this series: Ἄλλ' ὡς Θεοῦ Λόγον ἀκούσαντεςσύνδρομον ἔχουσιν τῇ βουλήσει τὴν δύναμιν. Of the second passage the Benedictine Editor says: "I have not been able to discover who is the author. No one can assign it to our Cyril, although the doctrine it contains is in full agreement with his: but he explains all the same points more at large in his two Lectures (xvi. xvii.). The passage is very ancient and undoubtedly older than the eleventh century, which is the date of the Cod. Coislin. Therefore in the controversy of the Latins against the Greeks concerning the Procession of the Holy Ghost it is important to notice what is taught in this passage, and also brought forward as a testimony by S. Thomas (Aquinas), that "The Holy Ghost is of the Godhead of the Father and the Son (ex Patris et Filii divinitate existere)." To me indeed these words seem to savour altogether not of the later but of the more ancient theology of the Greeks, and to be earlier than the controversies of the Greeks against the Latins."

This second passage is as follows:—

"For the Spirit of God is good. *And Thy good Spirit, says David, shall lead me in the land of righteousness.* This

then is the Spirit of God in which we believe: the blessed Spirit, the eternal, immutable, unchangeable, ineffable: which rules and reigns over all productive being, both visible and invisible natures: which is Lord both of Angels and Archangels, Powers, Principalities, Dominions, Thrones: the Creator of all being, enthroned with the glory of the Father and the Son, reigning without beginning and without end with the Father and the Son, before the created substances: Who sanctifies the *ministering spirits sent forth for the sake of those who are to inherit salvation*: Who came down upon the holy and blessed Virgin Mary, of whom was born Christ according to the flesh; came down also upon the Lord Himself in bodily form of a dove in the river Jordan: Who came upon the Apostles on the day of Pentecost in form of fiery tongues; Who gives and supplies all spiritual gifts in the Church, WHO PROCEEDETH FROM THE FATHER: Who is of the Godhead of the Father and the Son; Who is of one substance with the Father and the Son, inseparable and indivisible.”

116

4. Let no one therefore separate the Old from the New Testament¹; let no one say that the Spirit in the former is one, and in the latter another; since thus he offends against the Holy Ghost Himself, who with the Father and the Son together is honoured, and at the time of Holy Baptism is included with them in the Holy Trinity. For the Only-begotten Son of God said plainly to the Apostles, *Go ye, and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them into the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost*². Our hope is in Father, and Son, and Holy Ghost. We preach not three Gods³; let the Marcionites be silenced; but with the Holy Ghost through One Son, we preach One God. The Faith is indivisible; the worship inseparable. We neither separate the Holy Trinity, like some; nor do we as Sabellius work confusion.⁴ But we know according to godliness One Father, who sent His Son to be our Saviour; we know One Son, who promised that He would send the Comforter from the Father; we know the Holy Ghost, who spake in the Prophets, and who on the day of Pentecost descended on the Apostles in the form of fiery tongues, here, in Jerusalem, in the Upper Church of the Apostles⁵; for in all things the choicest privileges are with us. Here Christ came down from heaven; here the Holy Ghost came down from heaven. And in truth it were most fitting, that as we discourse concerning Christ and Golgotha here in Golgotha, so also we should speak concerning the Holy Ghost in the Upper Church; yet since He who descended there jointly partakes of the glory of Him who was crucified here, we here speak concerning Him also who descended there: for their worship is indivisible.

5. We would now say somewhat concerning the Holy Ghost; not to declare His substance with exactness, for this were impossible; but to speak of the diverse mistakes of some concerning him, lest from ignorance we should fall into them; and to block up the paths of error, that we may journey on the King's one highway. And if we now for caution's sake repeat any statement of the heretics, let it recoil on their heads, and may we be guiltless, both we who speak, and ye who hear.

6. For the heretics, who are most profane in all things, have *sharpened their tongue*⁶ against the Holy Ghost also, and have dared to utter impious things; as Irenæus the interpreter has written in his injunctions against heresies⁷. For some of them have dared to say that they were themselves the Holy Ghost;—of whom the first was Simon⁸, the sorcerer spoken of in the Acts of the Apostles; for when he was cast out, he presumed to teach such doctrines: and they who are called Gnostics, impious men, have spoken other things against the Spirit⁹, and the wicked Valentinians¹⁰ again something else; and the profane Manes dared to call himself the Paraclete sent by Christ¹¹. Others again have taught that the Spirit is different in the Prophets and in the New Testament.¹² Yea, and great is their error, or rather their blasphemy. Such therefore abhor, and flee from them who blaspheme the Holy Ghost, and have no forgiveness. For what fellowship hast thou with the desperate, thou, who art now to be baptized, into the Holy Ghost also¹³? If he who attaches himself to a thief, and consenteth with him, is subject to punishment, what hope shall he have, who offends against the Holy Ghost?

7. Let the Marcionists also be abhorred, who tear away from the New Testament the sayings of the Old¹⁴. For Marcion first, that most impious of men, who first asserted three Gods¹⁵, knowing that in the New Testament are

¹Cf. Cat. iv. 33; vii. 6. Irenæus, *Hæres.* III. xxi. 4; IV. ix. 1. In Eusebius, *E.H.* V. 13, Rhodon says that Apelles attributed the prophecies to an adverse spirit and rejected them as false and self-contradictory. Similar blasphemies against the holy Prophets are imputed to Manes by Epiphanius (*Hæres.* lxvi. 30).

²Matt. xxviii. 19. The same text is used with much force by S. Basil (*De Spir.* S. cap. xxiv.).

³Cat. xi. 4, note 3. See Newman's notes on Athanasius, *Contra Arian. Or.* I. viii. 1; Ib. *Or.* III. xxv. 9; Ib. xxvii. 3. Marcion's doctrine of three first principles (τριῶν ἀρχῶν λόγος) is discussed by Epiphanius (*Hæres.* xlii. 6, 7). See also Tertull. *Contra Marcion.* I. 15; Euseb. *Hist. Eccles.* V. 13.

⁴συναλοιφήν, iv. 8; xi. 16; xv. 9.

⁵Cat. xvii. 13. Epiphanius (*De Mensuris et Ponder.* c. 14): "And he (Hadrian) found the city all levelled to the ground, except a few houses, and the Church of God which was small: where the Disciples, on their return after the Saviour was taken up from the Mount of Olives, went up into the upper chamber: for there it had been built, that is on Sion." Cf. Stanley, *Sinai and Palestine*, c. xiv. 3: "Within the precincts of that Mosque (of the Tomb of David) is a vaulted Gothic chamber, which contains within its four walls a greater confluence of traditions than any other place of like dimensions in Palestine. It is startling to hear that this is the scene of the Last Supper, of the meeting after the Resurrection, of the miracle of Pentecost, of the residence and death of the Virgin, of the burial of Stephen."

⁶Ps. cxl. 3.

⁷Irenæus is called "the interpreter" in the same general sense as other ecclesiastical authors (Cat. xiii. 21; xv. 20), on account of his frequent comments upon the Scriptures. The full title of his work was *A Refutation and Subversion of Knowledge falsely so called* (Euseb. *Hist. Eccles.* V. c. 7). Cyril's expression (ἐν τοῖς προστάγμασι) is sufficiently appropriate to the hortatory purpose professed by Irenæus in his preface. But the Benedictine Editor thinks that the word προστάγμασι may be an interpolation arising from the following words πρὸς τὰς....The meaning would then be "in his writings *Against Heresies*," the usual short title of the work.

⁸Cat. vi. 14, note 10.

⁹Irenæus (I. xxix § 4; xxx. § 1).

¹⁰Ib. I. ii. §§ 5, 6.

¹¹Cat. vi. 25.

¹²Cat. iv. 33. See § 3, note 3, above.

¹³i.e. as well as into the Father and the Son.

¹⁴See *Dict. Christ. Biography*, Marcion, p. 283; and Tertullian (*Adv. Marcion.* IV. 6): "His whole aim centres in this that he may establish a diversity between the Old and New Testaments, so that his own Christ may be separate from the Creator, as belonging to the rival god, and as alien from the Law and the Prophets.

¹⁵Cf. § 4, note 5, above.

contained testimonies of the Prophets concerning Christ, cut out the testimonies taken from the Old Testament, that the King might be left without witness. Abhor those above-mentioned Gnostics, men of knowledge by name, but fraught with ignorance; who have dared to say such things of the Holy Ghost as I dare not repeat.

8. Let the Cataphrygians¹ also be thy abhorrence, and Montanus, their ringleader in evil, and his two so-called prophetesses, Maximilla and Priscilla. For this Montanus, who was out of his mind and really mad (for he would not have said such things, had he not been mad), dared to say that he was himself the Holy Ghost,—he, miserable man, and filled with all uncleanness and lasciviousness; for it suffices but to hint at this, out of respect for the women who are present. And having taken possession of Pepuza, a very small hamlet of Phrygia, he falsely named it Jerusalem; and cutting the throats of wretched little children, and chopping them up into unholy food, for the purpose of their so-called mysteries²,—(wherefore till but lately in the time of persecution we were suspected

of doing this, because these Montanists were called, falsely indeed, by the common name of Christians;)—yet he dared to call himself the Holy Ghost, filled as he was with all impiety and inhuman cruelty, and condemned by an irrevocable sentence.

9. And he was seconded, as was said before, by that most impious Manes also, who combined what was bad in every heresy³; who being the very lowest pit of destruction, collected the doctrines of all the heretics, and wrought out and taught a yet more novel error, and dared to say that he himself was the Comforter, whom Christ promised to send. But the Saviour when He promised Him, said to the Apostles, *But tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem, until ye be endued with power from on high*⁴. What then? did the Apostles who had been dead two hundred years, wait for Manes, *until they should be endued with the power*, and will any dare to say, that they were not forthwith full of the Holy Ghost? Moreover it is written, *Then they laid their hands on and they received the Holy Ghost*⁵; was not this before Manes, yea, many years before, when the Holy Ghost descended on the day of Pentecost?

10. Wherefore was Simon the sorcerer condemned? Was it not that he came to the Apostles, and said, *Give me also this power, that on whomsoever I lay hands, he may receive the Holy Ghost*? For he said not, “Give me also the fellowship of the Holy Ghost,” but “Give me the power;” that he might sell to others that which could not be sold, and which he did not himself possess. He offered money also to them who had no possessions⁶; and this, though he saw men bringing the prices of the things sold, and laying them at the Apostles’ feet. And he considered not that they who trod under foot the wealth which was brought for the maintenance of the poor, were not likely to give the power of the Holy Ghost for a bribe. But what say they to Simon? *Thy money perish with thee, because thou hast thought to purchase the gift of God with money*⁷; for thou art a second Judas, for expecting to buy the grace of the Spirit with money. If then Simon, for wishing to get this power for a price, is to *perish*, how great is the impiety of Manes, who said that he was the Holy Ghost? Let us hate them who are worthy of hatred; let us turn away from them from whom God turns away; let us also ourselves say unto God with all boldness concerning all heretics, *Do not I hate them, O Lord, that hate Thee, and am not I grieved with Thine enemies*⁸? For there is also an enmity which is right, according as it is written, *I will put enmity between thee and her seed*⁹; for friendship with the serpent works enmity with God, and death.

11. Let then thus much suffice concerning those outcasts; and now let us return to the divine Scriptures, and let us *drink waters out of our own cisterns* [that is, the holy Fathers¹⁰], *and out of our own springing wells*¹¹. Drink we of *living water, springing up into everlasting life*¹²; but this spake the Saviour of the Spirit, which they that believe on Him should receive¹³. For observe what He says, *He that believeth on Me* (not simply this, but), *as the Scripture hath said* (thus He hath sent thee back to the Old Testament), *out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water*, not rivers perceived by sense, and merely watering the earth with its thorns and trees, but bringing souls to the light. And in another place He says, *But the water that I shall give him, shall be in him a well of living water springing up*

¹Phrygians, or Cataphrygians (οἱ κατὰ φρυγίας) was the name given to the followers of the Phrygian Montanus. See the account of Montanism in Eusebius, *Hist. Eccl.* V. xvi., and the note there in this Series.

²The charges of lust and cruelty brought against the Montanists by Cyril and Epiphanius (*Hær* 48) seem to rest on no trustworthy evidence, and are not mentioned by Eusebius, a bitter foe to the sect.

³On Manes, see Cat. vi. 20. ff.

⁴Luke xxiv. 49.

⁵Acts viii. 17.

⁶Acts viii. 19. ἀκτήμοσι. Cf. § 19: ἀκτημονοῦσι, and § 22: ἀκτημοσύνην.

⁷Acts 8.20.

⁸Ps. cxxxix. 21.

⁹Gen. iii. 15.

¹⁰The words ἀγίων πατέρων are not found in the MSS. Mon. 1. Mon. 2. Vind. Roe. Casaub. nor in Grodecq. Whether meant to refer, as the Benedictine Editor thinks, to the writers of the Old Testament, or to Christian authors, they are an evident gloss.

¹¹[Prov. v. 15.](#)

¹²[John iv. 14.](#), quoted more fully at the end of the section.

¹³[John 7.38.39.](#)

118

into everlasting life,—a new kind of water living and springing up, springing up unto them who are worthy.

12. And why did He call the grace of the Spirit water? Because by water all things subsist; because water brings forth grass and living things; because the water of the showers comes down from heaven; because it comes down one in form, but works in many forms. For one fountain watereth the whole of Paradise, and one and the same rain comes down upon all the world, yet it becomes white in the lily, and red in the rose, and purple in violets and hyacinths, and different and varied in each several kind: so it is one in the palm-tree, and another in the vine, and all in all things; and yet is one in nature, not diverse from itself; for the rain does not change itself, and come down first as one thing, then as another, but adapting itself to the constitution of each thing which receives it, it becomes to each what is suitable¹. Thus also the Holy Ghost, being one, and of one nature, and indivisible, divides to each His grace, *according as He will*²: and as the dry tree, after partaking of water, puts forth shoots, so also the soul in sin, when it has been through repentance made worthy of the Holy Ghost, brings forth clusters of righteousness. And though He is One in nature, yet many are the virtues which by the will of God and in the Name of Christ He works. For He employs the tongue of one man for wisdom; the soul of another He enlightens by Prophecy; to another He gives power to drive away devils; to another He gives to interpret the divine Scriptures. He strengthens one man's self-command; He teaches another the way to give alms; another He teaches to fast and discipline himself; another He teaches to despise the things of the body; another He trains for martyrdom: diverse in different men, yet not diverse from Himself, as it is written, *But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to every man to profit withal. For to one is given through the Spirit the word of wisdom; and to another the word of knowledge according to the same Spirit; to another faith, in the same Spirit; and to another gifts of healing, in the same Spirit; and to another workings of miracles; and to another prophecy; and to another discernings of spirits; and to another divers kinds of tongues; and to another the interpretation of tongues: but all these worketh that one and the same Spirit, dividing to every man severally as He will*³.

13. But since concerning spirit in general many diverse things are written in the divine Scriptures, and there is fear lest some out of ignorance fall into confusion, not knowing to what sort of spirit the writing refers; it will be well now to certify you, of what kind the Scripture declares the Holy Spirit to be. For as Aaron is called Christ, and David and Saul and others are called Christs⁴, but there is only one true Christ, so likewise since the name of spirit is given to different things, it is right to see what is that which is distinctively called the Holy Spirit. For many things are called spirits. Thus an Angel is called spirit, our soul is called spirit, and this wind which is blowing is called spirit; great virtue also is spoken of as spirit; and impure practice is called spirit; and a devil our adversary is called spirit. Beware therefore when thou hearest these things, lest from their having a common name thou mistake one for another. For concerning our soul the Scripture says, *His spirit shall go forth, and he shall return to his earth*⁵: and of the same soul it says again, *Which formeth the spirit of man within him*⁶. And of the Angels it is said in the Psalms, *Who maketh His Angels spirits, and His ministers a flame of fire*⁷. And of the wind it saith, *Thou shalt break the ships of Tarshish with a violent spirit*⁸; and, *As the tree in the wood is shaken by the spirit*⁹; and, *Fire, hail, snow, ice, spirit of storm*¹⁰. And of good doctrine the Lord Himself says, *The words that I have spoken unto you, they are spirit*¹¹, and they are life; instead of, "are spiritual." But the Holy Spirit is not pronounced by the tongue; but He is a Living Spirit, who gives wisdom of speech, Himself speaking and discoursing.

14. And wouldest thou know that He discourses and speaks? Philip by revelation of an Angel went down to the way which leads to Gaza, when the Eunuch was coming; and the Spirit said to Philip, *Go near, and join thyself to this chariot*¹². Seest thou the Spirit talking to one who hears Him? Ezekiel also speaks thus, *The Spirit of the Lord came upon me, and said unto me, Thus saith the Lord*¹³. And again, *The Holy Ghost said*¹⁴, unto the Apostles who were in Antioch, *Separate me now Barnabas and Saul for the work whereunto I have called them.* Beholdest

thou the Spirit living, separating, calling, and with authority sending forth? Paul also said, *Save that the Holy Ghost witnesseth in every city, saying that bonds and afflictions await me*¹⁵. For this good Sanctifier of the Church, and her Helper, and Teacher, the Holy Ghost, the Comforter, of whom the Saviour said, *He shall*

¹Compare a similar passage on rain in Cat. ix. 9, 10.

²[1 Cor. xii. 11.](#)

³[1 Cor. 12.7-11.](#)

⁴See Cat. x. 11; xi. 1.

⁵[Ps. cxlvi. 4.](#)

⁶[Zech. xii. 1.](#)

⁷[Ps. civ. 4.](#)

⁸[Ps. xlviii. 7.](#)

⁹[Is. vii. 2.](#)

¹⁰[Ps. cxlviii. 8.](#)

¹¹[John vi. 63.](#)

¹²[Acts viii. 29.](#)

¹³[Ezek. xi. 5.](#)

¹⁴[Acts xiii. 2.](#)

¹⁵[Acts 20.23.](#)

119

teach you all things (and He said not only, *He shall teach*, but also, *He shall bring to your remembrance whatever I have said unto you*¹; for the teachings of Christ and of the Holy Ghost are not different, but the same)—He, I say, testified before to Paul what things should befall him, that he might be the more stout-hearted, from knowing them beforehand. Now I have spoken these things unto you because of the text, *The words which I have spoken unto you, they are spirit*; that thou mayest understand this, not of the utterance of the lips², but of the good doctrine in this passage.

15. But sin also is called spirit, as I have already said; only in another and opposite sense, as when it is said, *The spirit of whoredom caused them to err*³. The name “spirit” is given also to the *unclean spirit*, the devil; but with the addition of, “the unclean;” for to each is joined its distinguishing name, to mark its proper nature. If the Scripture speak of the soul of man, it says *the spirit* with the addition, *of the man*; if it mean the wind, it says, *spirit of storm*; if sin, it says, *spirit of whoredom*; if the devil, it says, *an unclean spirit*: that we may know which particular thing is spoken of, and thou mayest not suppose that it means the Holy Ghost; God forbid! For this name of spirit is common to many things; and every thing which has not a solid body is in a general way called spirit⁴. Since, therefore, the devils have not such bodies, they are called spirits: but there is a great difference; for the unclean devil, when he comes upon a man’s soul (may the Lord deliver from him every soul of those who hear me, and of those who are not present), he comes like a wolf upon a sheep, ravening for blood, and ready to devour. His coming is most fierce; the sense of it most oppressive; the mind becomes darkened; his attack is an injustice also,

and so is his usurpation of another's possession. For he makes forcible use of another's body, and another's instruments, as if they were his own; he throws down him who stands upright (for he is akin to him who *fell from heaven*⁵); he twists the tongue and distorts the lips; foam comes instead of words; the man is filled with darkness; his eye is open, yet the soul sees not through it; and the miserable man gasps convulsively at the point of death. The devils are verily foes of men, using them foully and mercilessly.

16. Such is not the Holy Ghost; God forbid! For His doings tend the contrary way, towards what is good and salutary. First, His coming is gentle; the perception of Him is fragrant; His burden most light; beams of light and knowledge gleam forth before His coming⁶. He comes with the bowels of a true guardian: for He comes to save, and to heal, to teach, to admonish, to strengthen, to exhort, to enlighten the mind, first of him who receives Him, and afterwards of others also, through him. And as a man, who being previously in darkness then suddenly beholds the sun, is enlightened in his bodily sight, and sees plainly things which he saw not, so likewise he to whom the Holy Ghost is vouchsafed, is enlightened in his soul, and sees things beyond man's sight, which he knew not; his body is on earth, yet his soul mirrors forth the heavens. He sees, like Esaias, *the Lord sitting upon a throne high and lifted up*⁷; he sees, like Ezekiel, *Him who is above the Cherubim*⁸; he sees like Daniel, *ten thousand times ten thousand, and thousands of thousands*⁹; and the man, who is so little, beholds the beginning of the world, and knows the end of the world, and the times intervening, and the successions of kings,—things which he never learned: for the True Enlightener is present with him. The man is within the walls of a house; yet the power of his knowledge reaches far and wide, and he sees even what other men are doing.

17. Peter was not with Ananias and Sapphira when they sold their possessions, but he was present by the Spirit; *Why, he says, hath Satan filled thine heart to lie to the Holy Ghost*¹⁰? There was no accuser; there was no witness; whence knew he what had happened? *Whiles it remained was it not thine own? and after it was sold, was it not in thine own power? why hast thou conceived this thing in thine heart*¹¹? The *unlettered*¹² Peter, through the grace of the Spirit, learnt what not even the wise men of the Greeks had known. Thou hast the like in the case also of Elisseus. For when he had freely healed the leprosy of Naaman, Gehazi received the reward, the reward of another's achievement; and he took the money from Naaman, and bestowed it in a dark place. But the *darkness is not* hidden from the Saints¹³. And when he came, Elisseus asked him; and like Peter, when he said, *Tell me whether ye*

¹[John xiv. 26.](#)

²[John 6.63.](#) The Holy Spirit is more than words pronounced by the tongue, even than our Lord's own words, which he called *spirit*.

³[Hosea iv. 12.](#)

⁴Origen, *de Principiis*, i. § 2: "It is the custom of Holy Scripture, when it would designate anything contrary to this more dense and solid body, to call it spirit."

⁵[Luke x. 18.](#)

⁶In this contrast between the evil spirit and the Spirit of God Cyril's language rises to true eloquence, far surpassing a somewhat similar description, which may have been known to him, in Euseb. *Dem. Evang.* V. 132.

⁷[Is. vi. 1.](#)

⁸[Ezek. x. 1.](#)

⁹[Dan. vii. 10.](#)

¹⁰[Acts v. 3.](#)

¹¹[Acts 5.4.](#)

[12Acts 4.13.](#)

[13Ps. cxxxix. 12.](#)

120

*sold the land for so much*¹? he also enquires, *Whence comest thou, Gehaz*²? Not in ignorance, but in sorrow ask I *whence comest thou?* From darkness art thou come, and to darkness shalt thou go; thou hast sold the cure of the leper, and the leprosy is thy heritage. I, he says, have fulfilled the bidding of Him who said to me, *Freely ye have received, freely give*³; but thou hast sold this grace; receive now the condition of the sale. But what says Elisseus to him? *Went not mine heart with thee?* I was here shut in by the body, but the spirit which has been given me of God saw even the things afar off, and shewed me plainly what was doing elsewhere. Seest thou how the Holy Ghost not only rids of ignorance, but invests with knowledge? Seest thou how He enlightens men's souls?

18. Esaias lived nearly a thousand years ago; and he beheld Zion as a booth. The city was still standing, and beautified with public places, and robed in majesty; yet he says, *Zion shall be ploughed as a field*⁴, foretelling what is now fulfilled in our days⁵. And observe the exactness of the prophecy; for he said, *And the daughter of Zion shall be left as a booth in a vineyard, as a lodge in a garden of cucumbers*⁶. And now the place is filled with gardens of cucumbers. Seest thou how the Holy Spirit enlightens the saints? Be not therefore carried away to other things, by the force of a common term, but keep fast the exact meaning.

19. And if ever, while thou hast been sitting here, a thought concerning chastity or virginity has come into thy mind, it has been His teaching. Has not often a maiden, already at the bridal threshold⁷, fled away, He teaching her the doctrine of virginity? Has not often a man distinguished at court⁸, scorned wealth and rank, under the teaching of the Holy Ghost? Has not often a young man, at the sight of beauty, closed his eyes, and fled from the sight, and escaped the defilement? Askest thou whence this has come to pass? The Holy Ghost taught the soul of the young man. Many ways of covetousness are there in the world; yet Christians refuse possessions: wherefore? because of the teaching of the Holy Ghost. Worthy of honour is in truth that Spirit, holy and good; and fittingly are we baptized into Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. A man, still clothed with a body, wrestles with many fiercest demons; and often the demon, whom many men could not master with iron bands, has been mastered by the man himself with words of prayer, through the power which is in him of the Holy Ghost; and the mere breathing of the Exorcist⁹ becomes as fire to that unseen foe. A mighty ally and protector, therefore, have we from God; a great Teacher of the Church, a mighty Champion on our behalf. Let us not be afraid of the demons, nor of the devil; for mightier is He who fighteth for us. Only let us open to Him our doors; *for He goeth about seeking such as are worthy*¹⁰ and searching on whom He may confer His gifts.

20. And He is called the Comforter, because He comforts and encourages us, and *helpeth our infirmities; for we know not what we should pray for as we ought; but the Spirit Himself maketh intercession for us, with groanings which cannot be uttered*¹¹, that is, makes intercession to God. Oftentimes a man for Christ's sake has been outraged and dishonoured unjustly; martyrdom is at hand; tortures on every side, and fire, and sword, and savage beasts, and the pit. But the Holy Ghost softly whispers to him, "*Wait thou on the Lord*¹², O man; what is now befalling thee is a small matter, the reward will be great. Suffer a little while, and thou shalt be with Angels for ever. *The sufferings of this present time art not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us*¹³." He portrays to the man the kingdom of heaven; He gives him a glimpse of the paradise of delight; and the martyrs, whose bodily countenances are of necessity turned to their judges, but who in spirit are already in Paradise, despise those hardships which are seen.

21. And wouldest thou be sure that by the power of the Holy Ghost the Martyrs bear their witness? The Saviour says to His disciples, *And when they bring you unto*

[1Acts v. 8.](#)

[22 Kings v. 25.](#)

[3Matt. x. 8.](#)

⁴[Micah iii. 12](#); ascribed by Cyril to Isaiah.

⁵Cf. Euseb. *Dem. Evang.* vi. 13: "In our own time we have seen with our eyes the Sion of old renown being ploughed by Romans with yokes of oxen, and Jerusalem in a state of utter desolation as the oracle itself says, like a lodge in a garden of cucumbers. As Cyril at that time saw the Prophet's prediction fulfilled, so we also to the present day see most plainly the fulfilment of the divine oracle, and Sion ploughed before our eyes: for except the Church of the Apostles, with the houses lying around it, and the house of Caiaphas and the cemeteries, all the remaining space of this hill, lying without the city, is under plough." (Jerusalem Editor).

⁶[Isa. i. 8](#). ὁπωροφυλάκιον is the hut of the watchman who guarded the crop when ripening for harvest. Σικυήλατον is explained by Basil in his comment on the passage of Isaiah as "A place that produces quick-growing and perishable fruits." This agrees with the etymological sense of the word as "a forcing-bed for cucumbers" (Hippocrates apud Fritzsche, "*Der Brief des Jeremia*," v. 70). On the form σικυηράτω, see the notes on the Epistle of Jeremy in the Speaker's Commentary.

⁷παστάδας. On the meaning of παστάς see the notes on Herodotus, II. 148, 169 in Bähr, and Rawlinson. Here it appears to mean the cloister or colonnade which gave access to the bridal chamber, θάλαμος.

⁸ἐν παλατίοις.

⁹Compare Procat. § 9; Cat. xx. 3.

¹⁰[Wisdom vi. 16](#). Compare the saying in Clem. Alex. *Quis dives salvetur?* § 31: αὐτὸν ζητεῖν τοὺς εὖ πεισομένους ἀξίους τε ὄντας τοῦ Σωτῆρος μαθητάς. The Jerusalem Editor quotes from Origen (*Prolog. in Cantic.*) a passage which may have been known to Cyril: "This Comforter therefore goeth about seeking if He may discover any worthy and receptive souls to whom He may reveal the greatness of the love which is in God."

¹¹[Rom. viii. 26](#).

¹²[Ps. xxviii. 14](#); [xxxvii. 34](#).

¹³[Rom. viii. 18](#).

*the synagogues, and the magistrates, and authorities, be not anxious how ye shall answer, or what ye shall say; for the Holy Ghost shall teach you in that very hour, what ye ought to say*¹. For it is impossible to testify as a martyr for Christ's sake, except a man testify by the Holy Ghost; for if *no man can say that Jesus Christ is the Lord, but by the Holy Ghost*², how shall any man give his own life for Jesus' sake, but by the Holy Ghost?

22. Great indeed, and all-powerful in gifts, and wonderful, is the Holy Ghost. Consider, how many of you are now sitting here, how many souls of us are present. He is working suitably for each, and being present in the midst, beholds the temper of each, beholds also his reasoning and his conscience, and what we say, and think, and believe³. Great indeed is what I have now said, and yet is it small. For consider, I pray, with mind enlightened by Him, how many Christians there are in all this diocese, and how many in the whole province⁴ of Palestine, and carry forward thy mind from this province, to the whole Roman Empire; and after this, consider the whole world; races of Persians, and nations of Indians, Garbs and Sarmatians, Gauls and Spaniards, and Moors, Libyans and Ethiopians, and the rest for whom we have no names; for of many of the nations not even the names have reached us. Consider, I pray, of each nation, Bishops, Presbyters, Deacons, Solitaries, Virgins, and laity besides; and then behold their great Protector, and the Dispenser of their gifts;—how throughout the world He gives to one chastity, to another perpetual virginity, to another almsgiving, to another voluntary poverty, to another power of repelling hostile spirits. And as the light, with one touch of its radiance sheds brightness on all things, so also the Holy Ghost enlightens those who have eyes; for if any from blindness is not vouchsafed His grace, let him not blame the Spirit, but his own unbelief.

23. Thou hast seen His power, which is in all the world; tarry now no longer upon earth, but ascend on high. Ascend, I say, in imagination even unto the first heaven, and behold there so many countless myriads of Angels. Mount up in thy thoughts, if thou canst, yet higher; consider, I pray thee, the Archangels, consider also the Spirits; consider the Virtues, consider the Principalities, consider the Powers, consider the Thrones, consider the Dominions⁵;—of all these the Comforter is the Ruler from God, and the Teacher, and the Sanctifier. Of Him Elias has need, and Elisseus, and Esaias, among men; of Him Michael and Gabriel have need among Angels. Naught of things created is equal in honour to Him: for the families of the Angels, and all their hosts assembled together, have no equality with the Holy Ghost. All these the all-excellent power of the Comforter overshadows. And they indeed are sent forth to minister⁶, but He searches even the deep things of God, according as the Apostle says, For the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God. For what man knoweth the thing of a man, save the spirit of the man which is in him? even so the things of God knoweth no man, but the Spirit of God⁷.

24. He preached concerning Christ in the Prophets; He wrought in the Apostles; He to this day seals the souls in Baptism. And the Father indeed gives to the Son; and the Son shares with the Holy Ghost. For it is Jesus Himself, not I, who says, *All things are delivered unto Me of My Father*⁸; and of the Holy Ghost He says, *When He, the Spirit of Truth, shall come, and the rest....He shall glorify Me; for He shall receive of Mine, and shall shew it unto you*⁹. The Father through the Son, with the Holy Ghost, is the giver of all grace; the gifts of the Father are none other than those of the Son, and those of the Holy Ghost; for there is one Salvation, one Power, one Faith; One God, the Father; One Lord, His only-begotten Son; One Holy Ghost, the Comforter. And it is enough for us to know these things; but inquire not curiously into His nature or substance¹⁰: for had it been written, we would have spoken of it; what is not written, let us not venture on; it is sufficient for our salvation to know, that there is Father, and Son, and Holy Ghost.

25. This Spirit descended upon the seventy Elders in the days of Moses. (Now let not the length of the discourse, beloved, produce weariness in you: but may He the very subject of our discourse grant strength to every one, both to us who speak, and to you who listen!) This Spirit, as I was saying, came down upon the seventy Elders in the time of Moses; and this I say to thee, that I may now prove, that He knoweth all things, and worketh as *He will*¹¹.

¹[Luke xii. 11, 12.](#)

²[1 Cor. xii. 3.](#) μαρτυρῆσαι, “to bear witness by death.”

³Codd. Monac. Vind. Roe. Casaub. add καὶ τί πιστεύομεν.

⁴The terms *παροικία*, the See of a Bishop, and *ἐπαρχία*, the Province of a Metropolitan, were both adopted from the corresponding divisions of the Roman Empire. See Bingham, *Antt.* Book IX. i. §§ 2–6.

⁵S. Basil (*De Spiritu* S. c. xvi. § 38), after quoting the same passage, [Col. i. 16](#), proceeds—εἴτε κυριότητες, καὶ εἴ τινές εἰσιν ἕτεραι λογικαὶ φύσεις ἀκατονόμαστοι. The last word shews that Basil had in mind this passage of Cyril, who after the names of nations in § 22, adds καὶ τοὺς λοιποὺς ἀκατονομάστους ἡμῖν.

⁶[Heb. i. 14.](#)

⁷[1 Cor. ii. 10, 11.](#)

⁸[Matt. xi. 27.](#)

⁹[John xvi. 13, 14.](#)

¹⁰In regard to the caution with which St. Cyril here speaks, we must remember that the heresy of Macedonius had not yet given occasion to the formal discussion and determination of the “nature and substance” of the Holy Ghost.

¹¹[1 Cor. xii. 11.](#)

The seventy Elders were chosen; *And the Lord came down in a cloud, and took of the Spirit that was upon Moses, and put it upon the seventy Elders*¹; not that the Spirit was divided, but that His grace was distributed in proportion to the vessels, and the capacity of the recipients. Now there were present sixty and eight, and they prophesied; but Eldad and Modad were not present: therefore that it might be shewn that it was not Moses who bestowed the gift, but the Spirit who wrought, Eldad and Modad, who though called, had not as yet presented themselves, did also prophesy².

26. Jesus the Son of Nun, the successor of Moses, was amazed; and came to him and said, "Hast thou heard that Eldad and Modad are prophesying? They were called, and they came not; *my lord Moses, forbid them*³." "I cannot forbid them," he says, "for this grace is from Heaven; nay, so far am I from forbidding them, that I myself am thankful for it. I think not, however, that thou hast said this in envy; *art thou jealous for my sake*, because that they prophesy, and thou prophesiest not yet? Wait for the proper season; *and oh that all the Lord's people may be prophets, whenever the Lord shall give His Spirit upon them*⁴!" saying this also prophetically, *whenever the Lord shall give*; "For as yet then He has not given it; so thou hast it not yet."—Had not then Abraham this, and Isaac, and Jacob, and Joseph? And they of old, had they it not? Nay, but the words, "*whenever the Lord shall give*" evidently mean "give it upon all; as yet indeed the grace is partial, then it shall be given lavishly." And he secretly alluded to what was to happen among us on the day of Pentecost; for He Himself came down among us. He had however also come down upon many before. For it is written, *And Jesus the son of Nun was filled with a spirit of wisdom; for Moses had laid his hands upon him*⁵. Thou seest the figure everywhere the same in the Old and New Testament;—in the days of Moses, the Spirit was given by laying on of hands; and by laying on of hands Peter⁶ also gives the Spirit. And on thee also, who art about to be baptized, shall His grace come; yet in what manner I say not, for I will not anticipate the proper season.

27. He also came down upon all righteous men and Prophets; Enos, I mean, and Enoch, and Noah, and the rest; upon Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob; for as regards Joseph, even Pharaoh perceived that he had *the Spirit of God within him*⁷. As to Moses, and the wonderful works wrought by the Spirit in his days, thou hast heard often: This Spirit Job also had, that most enduring man, and all the saints, though we repeat not all their names. He also was sent forth when the Tabernacle was in making, and filled with wisdom the wise-hearted men who were with Bezaleel⁸.

28. In the might of this Spirit, as we have it in the Book of Judges, Othniel judged⁹; Gideon¹⁰ waxed strong; Jephtha conquered¹¹; Deborah, a woman, waged war; and Samson, so long as he did righteously, and grieved Him not, wrought deeds above man's power. And as for Samuel and David, we have it plainly in the Books of the Kingdoms, how by the Holy Ghost they prophesied themselves, and were rulers of the prophets;—and Samuel was called *the Seer*¹²; and David says distinctly, *The Spirit of the Lord spake by me*¹³, and in the Psalms, *And take not thy Holy Spirit from me*¹⁴, and again, *Thy good Spirit shall lead me in the land of righteousness*¹⁵. And as we have it in Chronicles, Azariah¹⁶, in the time of King Asa, and Jahaziel¹⁷ in the time of King Jehoshaphat, partook of the Holy Ghost; and again, another Azariah, he who was stoned¹⁸. And Ezra says, *Thou gavest also Thy good Spirit to instruct them*¹⁹. But as touching Elias who was taken up, and Elisseus, those inspired²⁰ and wonder-working men, it is manifest, without our saying so, that they were full of the Holy Ghost.

29. And if further a man peruse all the books of the Prophets, both of the Twelve, and of the others, he will find many testimonies concerning the Holy Ghost; as when Micah says in the person of God, *surely I will perfect power by the Spirit the Lord*²¹; and Joel cries, *And it shall come to pass afterwards, saith God, that I will pour out My Spirit upon all flesh*²², and the rest; and Haggai, *Because I am with you, saith the Lord of Hosts*²³; and *My Spirit remaineth in the midst of you*²⁴; and in like manner Zechariah, *But receive My words and My statutes which I command by My Spirit, to My servants the Prophets*²⁵; and other passages.

30. Esaias too, with his majestic voice, says, *And the Spirit of God shall rest upon Him*,

¹Num. xi. 24, 25. "Modad" is the form of the name in the LXX.

²The apocryphal book of Eldad and Modad is mentioned by Hermas, *Shepherd*, Vis. ii. § 3. S. Basil, *Liber de Spir.* S. cap. 61, referring to Num. xi. 26, says that the Spirit rested permanently only upon Eldad and Modad.

³[Num. xi. 28.](#)

⁴[Num. xi. 29.](#)

⁵[Deut. xxxiv. 9.](#)

⁶[Acts viii. 18.](#) On this passage of Cyril, see the section on “*Chrism*” in the Introduction.

⁷[Gen. xli. 38.](#)

⁸[Ex. xxxi. 1-6; xxxvi. 1.](#)

⁹[Judges iii. 10.](#)

¹⁰[Judg. 6.34.](#)

¹¹[Judg. 11.29.](#)

¹²¹[1 Sam. ix. 9.](#)

¹³²[2 Sam. xxiii. 2.](#)

¹⁴[Ps. li. 11.](#)

¹⁵[Ps. cxliii. 10.](#)

¹⁶²[2 Chron. xv. 1.](#)

¹⁷²[2 Chron. 20.14.](#)

¹⁸²[2 Chron. 24.20,21.](#)

¹⁹[Neh. ix. 20.](#) Ezra and Nehemiah form one book “Ezra” in the Hebrew Canon.

²⁰[πνευματοφόρων](#), used only twice in the Sept. ([Hosea ix. 7](#); [Zeph. iii. 4](#)), and in an unfavourable sense. With Cyril’s use of it compare Theophilus, *Ad Autolyc.* ii. 9: Θεοῦ ἀνθρώπους πνευματοφόρους Πνεύματος ἁγίου.

²¹[Mic. iii. 8.](#)

²²[Joel ii. 28.](#)

²³[Haggai ii. 4.](#)

²⁴[Hag. 2.5.](#)

²⁵[Zech. i. 6.](#)

the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and godliness; and the Spirit of the fear of God shall fill Him¹; signifying that the Spirit is one and undivided, but His operations various. So again, *Jacob My servant,.....I have put My Spirit upon Him²*. And again, *I will pour My Spirit upon thy*

seed⁸; and again, *And now the Lord Almighty and His Spirit hath sent Me*⁴; and again, *This is My covenant with them, saith the Lord, My Spirit which is upon thee*⁵; and again, *The Spirit of the Lord is upon Me, because He hath anointed Me*⁶; and the rest; and again in his charge against the Jews, *But they rebelled and vexed His Holy Spirit*⁷, and *Where is He that put His Holy Spirit within them*⁸? Also thou hast in Ezekiel (if thou be not now weary of listening), what has already been quoted, *And the Spirit fell upon me, and said unto me, Speak; Thus saith the Lord*⁹. But the words, *fell upon me* we must understand in a good sense, that is “lovingly;” and as Jacob, when he had found Joseph, fell upon his neck; as also in the Gospels, the loving father, on seeing his son who had returned from his wandering, *had compassion, and ran and fell on his neck, and kissed him*¹⁰. And again in Ezekiel, *And he brought me in a vision by the Spirit of God into Chaldæa, to them of the captivity*¹¹. And other texts thou heardest before, in what was said about Baptism; *Then will I sprinkle clean water upon you*¹², and the rest; *a new heart also will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you*¹³; and then immediately, *And I will put My Spirit within you*¹⁴. And again, *The hand of the Lord was upon me, and carried me out in the Spirit of the Lord*¹⁵.

31. He endued with wisdom the soul of Daniel, that young as he was he should become a judge of Elders. The chaste Susanna was condemned as a wanton; there was none to plead her cause; for who was to deliver her from the rulers? She was led away to death, she was now in the hands of the executioners. But her Helper was at hand, the Comforter, the Spirit who sanctifies every rational nature. Come hither to me, He says to Daniel; young though thou be, convict old men infected with the sins of youth; for it is written, *God raised up the Holy Spirit upon a young stripling*¹⁶; and nevertheless, (to pass on quickly,) by the sentence of Daniel that chaste lady was saved. We bring this forward as a testimony; for this is not the season for expounding. Nebuchadnezzar also knew that the Holy Spirit was in Daniel; for he says to him, *O Belteshazzar, master of the magicians, of whom I know, that the Holy Spirit of God is in thee*¹⁷. One thing he said truly, and one falsely; for that he had the Holy Spirit was true, but he was not the *master of the magicians*, for he was no magician, but was wise through the Holy Ghost. And before this also, he interpreted to him the vision of the Image, which he who had seen it himself knew not; for he says, Tell me the vision, which I who saw it know not¹⁸. Thou seest the power of the Holy Ghost; that which they who saw it, know not, they who saw it not, know and interpret.

32. And indeed it were easy to collect very many texts out of the Old Testament, and to discourse more largely concerning the Holy Ghost. But the time is short; and we must be careful of the proper length of the lecture. Wherefore, being for the present content awhile with passages from the Old Testament, we will, if it be God's pleasure, proceed in the next Lecture to the remaining texts out of the New Testament. And may the God of peace, through our Lord Jesus Christ, and through the love of the Spirit, count all of you worthy of His spiritual and heavenly gifts:—To whom be glory and power for ever and ever. Amen.

¹[Is. xi. 2.](#)

²[Isa. 44.1; 42.1.](#)

³[Isa. 44.3.](#)

⁴[Isa. 48.16.](#)

⁵[Is. lix. 21.](#)

⁶[Is. lxi. 1.](#)

⁷[Isa. 63.10.](#)

⁸[Isa. 63.11.](#)

⁹[Ezek. xi. 5.](#)

¹⁰[Gen. xlv. 29; Luke xv. 20.](#)

¹¹[Ezek. xi. 24.](#)

¹²[Ezek. 36.25](#); Cat. iii. 16.

¹³[Ezek. 36.26.](#)

¹⁴[Ezek. 36.27.](#)

¹⁵[Ezek. xxxvii. 1.](#)

¹⁶Susanna, [vSus. 45.](#)

¹⁷[Dan. iv. 9.](#)

¹⁸[Dan. 2.26,31.](#)

 124

Lecture XVII.

Continuation of the Discourse on the Holy Ghost.

[1 CORINTHIANS XII. 8](#)

For to one is given by the Spirit the word of wisdom, &c.

1. In the preceding Lecture, according to our ability we set before you, our beloved hearers¹, some small portion of the testimonies concerning the Holy Ghost; and on the present occasion, we will, if it be God's pleasure, proceed to treat, as far as may be, of those which remain out of the New Testament: and as then to keep within due limit of your attention we restrained our eagerness (for there is no satiety in discoursing concerning the Holy Ghost), so now again we must say but a small part of what remains. For now, as well as then, we candidly own that our weakness is overwhelmed by the multitude of things written. Neither to-day will we use the subtleties of men, for that is unprofitable; but merely call to mind what comes from the divine Scriptures; for this is the safest course, according to the blessed Apostle Paul, who says, *Which things also we speak, not in words which man's wisdom teacheth, but which the Holy Ghost teacheth, comparing spiritual things with spiritual*². Thus we act like travellers or voyagers, who having one goal to a very long journey, though hastening on with eagerness, yet by reason of human weakness are wont to touch in their way at divers cities or harbours.

2. Therefore though our discourses concerning the Holy Ghost are divided, yet He Himself is undivided, being one and the same. For as in speaking concerning the Father, at one time we taught how He is the one only Cause³; and at another, how He is called Father⁴, or Almighty⁵; and at another, how He is the Creator⁶ of the universe; and yet the division of the Lectures made no division of the Faith, in that He, the Object of devotion, both was and is One;—and again, as in discoursing concerning the Only-begotten Son of God we taught at one time concerning His Godhead⁷, and at another concerning His Manhood⁸, dividing into many discourses the doctrines concerning our Lord Jesus Christ, yet preaching undivided faith towards Him;—so now also though the Lectures concerning the Holy Spirit are divided, yet we preach faith undivided towards Him. For it is one and the Self-same Spirit who *divides His gifts to every man severally as He will*⁹, Himself the while remaining undivided. For the Comforter is not different from the Holy Ghost, but one and the self-same, called by various names; who lives and subsists, and speaks, and works; and of all rational natures made by God through Christ, both of Angels and of men, He is the Sanctifier¹⁰.

3. But lest any from lack of learning, should suppose from the different titles of the Holy Ghost that these are

divers spirits, and not one and the self-same, which alone there is, therefore the Catholic Church guarding thee beforehand hath delivered to thee in the profession of the faith, that thou “BELIEVE IN ONE HOLY GHOST THE COMFORTER, WHO SPAKE BY THE PROPHETS;” that thou mightest know, that though His names be many, the Holy Spirit is but one;—of which names, we will now rehearse to you a few out of many.

4. He is called the Spirit, according to the Scripture just now read, *For to one is given by the Spirit the word of wisdom*¹¹. He is called the Spirit of Truth, as the Saviour says, *When He, the Spirit of Truth, is come*¹². He is called also the Comforter, as He said, *For if I go not away, the Comforter will not come unto you*¹³.

¹ταῖς τῆς ὑμετέρας ἀγάπης ἀκοαῖς. Compare § 30, below: συγγώμην αἰτῶ παρὰ τῆς ὑμετέρας ἀγάπης. Ignat. *Philadelph.* c. iv. (Long recension): θαρρῶν γράφω τῇ ἀξιοθέῳ ἀγάπῃ ὑμῶν. “Caritas” is constantly used in the same manner.

²[1 Cor. ii. 13.](#)

³Cat. vi.

⁴Ib. vii.

⁵Ib. viii.

⁶Ib. ix.

⁷Cat. x. xi.

⁸Ib. xii. xv.

⁹[1 Cor. xii. 11.](#)

¹⁰Compare Basil. *de Sp. Sancto*, c. 38: “By the Father’s will the ministering spirits subsist, and by the operation of the Son they are brought into existence, and by the presence of the Holy Ghost are perfected: and the perfection of Angels is sanctification and continuance therein.”

¹¹[1 Cor. xii. 8.](#)

¹²[John xvi. 13.](#)

¹³[John 16.7.](#)

But that He is one and the same, though called by different titles, is shewn plainly from the following. For that the Holy Spirit and the Comforter are the same, is declared in those words, *But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost*¹; and that the Comforter is the same as the Spirit of Truth, is declared, when it is said, *And I will give you another Comforter, that He may abide with you for ever, even the Spirit of Truth*²; and again, *But when the Comforter is come whom I will send unto you from the Father, even the Spirit of Truth*³. And He is called the Spirit of God, according as it is written, *And I saw the Spirit of God descending*⁴; and again, *For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God*⁵. He is called also the Spirit of the Father, as the Saviour says, *For it is not ye that speak, but the Spirit of your Father which speaketh in you*⁶; and again Paul saith, *For this cause I bow my knees unto the Father, and the rest;...that He would grant you to be strengthened by His Spirit*⁷. He is also called the Spirit of the Lord, according to that which Peter spake, *Why is it that ye have agreed together to tempt the Spirit of the Lord*⁸? He is called also the Spirit of God and Christ, as Paul writes, *But ye are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you. But if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none*

of His⁹. He is called also the Spirit of the Son of God, as it is said, *And because ye are sons, God hath sent forth the Spirit of His Son*¹⁰. He is called also the Spirit of Christ, as it is written, *Searching what or what manner of time the Spirit of Christ which was in them did signify*¹¹; and again, *Through your prayer, and the supply of the Spirit of Jesus Christ*¹².

5. Thou wilt find many other titles of the Holy Ghost besides. Thus He is called the Spirit of Holiness, as it is written, *According to the Spirit of Holiness*¹³. He is also called the Spirit of adoption, as Paul saith, *For ye received not the spirit of bondage again unto fear, but ye received the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father*¹⁴. He is also called the Spirit of revelation, as it is written, *May give you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him*¹⁵. He is also called the Spirit of promise, as the same Paul says, *In whom ye also after that ye believed, were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise*¹⁶. He is also called the Spirit of grace, as when he says again, *And hath done despite to the Spirit of grace*¹⁷. And by many other such-like titles is He named. And thou heardest plainly in the foregoing Lecture, that in the Psalms He is called at one time *the good Spirit*¹⁸, and at another the *princely Spirit*¹⁹; and in Esaias He was styled *the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, of counsel, and might, of knowledge, and of godliness, and of the fear of God*²⁰. By all which Scriptures both those before and those now alleged, it is established, that though the titles of the Holy Ghost be different, He is one and the same; living and subsisting, and always present together with the Father and the Son²¹; not uttered or breathed from the mouth and lips of the Father or the Son, nor dispersed into the air, but having a real substance²², Himself speaking, and working, and dispensing, and sanctifying; even as the Economy of salvation which is to usward from the Father and the Son and the Holy Ghost, is inseparable and harmonious and one, as we have also said before. For I wish you to keep in mind those things which were lately spoken, and to know clearly that there is not one Spirit in the Law and the Prophets, and another in the Gospels and Apostles; but that it is One and the Self-same Holy Spirit, which both in the Old and in the New Testament, spoke the divine Scriptures²³.

6. This is the Holy Ghost, who came upon the Holy Virgin Mary; for since He who was conceived was Christ the Only-begotten, the *power of the Highest overshadowed her*, and the *Holy Ghost came upon her*²⁴, and sanctified her, that she might be able to receive Him, *by whom all things were made*²⁵. But I have no need of many words to teach thee that generation was without defilement or taint, for thou hast learned it. It is Gabriel who says to her, I am the herald of what shall be done, but have no part in the work. Though an Archangel, I know my place; and though I joyfully bid thee All hail, yet how thou shalt bring forth, is not of any grace of mine. *The Holy Ghost shall come upon thee, and the power of the Highest shall overshadow thee; therefore also that Holy Thing which shall be born of thee shall be called the Son of God*²⁶.

7. This Holy Spirit wrought in Elisabeth; for He recognises not virgins only, but matrons also, so that their marriage be lawful. *And*

¹[John xiv. 26.](#)

²[John 14.16,17.](#)

³[John 15.26.](#)

⁴[John i. 32.](#)

⁵[Rom. viii. 14.](#)

⁶[Matt. x. 20.](#)

⁷[Eph. iii. 14-16.](#)

⁸[Acts v. 9.](#)

⁹[Rom. viii. 9.](#)

¹⁰[Gal. iv. 6.](#)

¹¹[1 Pet. i. 11.](#)

¹²[Phil. i. 19.](#)

¹³[Rom. i. 4.](#)

¹⁴[Rom. 8.15.](#)

¹⁵[Eph. i. 17.](#)

¹⁶[Eph. 1.13.](#)

¹⁷[Heb. x. 29.](#)

¹⁸[Cat. xvi. 28;](#) [Ps. cxliii. 10.](#)

¹⁹ἡγεμονικῶ, Sept. [Ps. li. 12](#): R.V. *Uphold me with a free spirit.*

²⁰[Is. xi. 2.](#)

²¹Origen, in the Catena on St. [John iii. 8](#): "This also shews that the Spirit is a Being (οὐσίαν): for He is not, as some suppose, an energy of God, having according to them no individuality of subsistence. And the Apostle also, after enumerating the gifts of the Spirit, immediately added, *But all these worketh the one and the same Spirit, dividing to each one severally as He will.* Now if He willeth and worketh and divideth, He is surely an energizing Being, but not an energy" (Suicer, *Thesaurus*, Πνευμα).

²²ἐνυπόστατον. Cf. [Cat. xi. 10](#); [xvi. 13](#), note 5.

²³[Cat. iv. 16](#); [xvi. 4.](#)

²⁴[Luke i. 35.](#)

²⁵[John i. 3.](#)

²⁶[Luke i. 35.](#)

126

*Elisabeth was filled with the Holy Ghost*¹, and prophesied; and that noble hand-maiden says of her own Lord, *And whence is this to me, that the Mother of my Lord should come to me*²? For Elisabeth counted herself blessed. Filled with this Holy Spirit, Zacharias also, the father of John, prophesied³, telling how many good things the Only-begotten should procure, and that John should be His harbinger⁴ through baptism. By this Holy Ghost also it was revealed to just Symeon, *that he should not see death, till he had seen the Lord's Christ*⁵; and he received Him in his arms, and bore clear testimony in the Temple concerning Him.

8. And John also, who had been filled with the Holy Ghost from his mother's womb⁶, was for this cause sanctified, that he might baptize the Lord; not giving the Spirit himself, but preaching glad tidings of Him who gives the Spirit. For he says, *I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance, but He that cometh after me, and the rest; He shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost and with fire*⁷. But wherefore with fire? Because the descent of the Holy Ghost was in fiery tongues; concerning which the Lord says joyfully, *I am come to send fire on the earth; and what will I, if it be already kindled*⁸?

9. This Holy Ghost came down when the Lord was baptized, that the dignity of Him who was baptized might not be hidden; as John says, *But He which sent me to baptize with water, the same said unto me, Upon whomsoever thou shalt see the Spirit descending and remaining upon Him, the same is He which baptizeth with the Holy Ghost*⁹. But see what saith the Gospel; *the heavens were opened*; they were opened because of the dignity of Him who descended; for, *lo*, he says, *the heavens were opened, and he saw the Spirit of God descending as a dove, and lighting upon Him*¹⁰: that is, with voluntary motion in His descent. For it was fit, as some have interpreted, that the primacy and first-fruits¹¹ of the Holy Spirit promised to the baptized should be conferred upon the manhood of the Saviour, who is the giver of such grace. But perhaps He came down in the form of a dove, as some say, to exhibit a figure of that dove who is pure and innocent and undefiled, and also helps the prayers for the children she has begotten, and for forgiveness of sins¹²; even as it was emblematically foretold that Christ should be thus manifested in the appearance of His eyes; for in the Canticles she cries concerning the Bridegroom, and says, *Thine eyes are as doves by the rivers of water*¹³.

10. Of this dove, the dove of Noe, according to some, was in part a figure¹⁴. For as in his time by means of wood and of water there came salvation to themselves, and the beginning of a new generation, and the dove returned to him towards evening with an olive branch; thus, say they, the Holy Ghost also descended upon the true Noe, the Author of the second birth, who draws together into one the wills of all nations, of whom the various dispositions of the animals in the ark were a figure:—Him at whose coming the spiritual wolves feed with the lambs, in whose Church the calf, and the lion, and the ox, feed in the same pasture, as we behold to this day the rulers of the world guided and taught by Churchmen. The spiritual dove therefore, as some interpret, came down at the season of His baptism, that He might shew that it is He who by the wood of the Cross saves them who believe, He who at eventide should grant salvation through His death.

11. And these things perhaps should be otherwise explained; but now again we must hear the words of the Saviour Himself concerning the Holy Ghost. For He says, *Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God*¹⁵. And that this grace is from the Father, He thus states, *How much more shall your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to them that ask him*¹⁶. And that we ought to worship God in the Spirit, He shews thus, *But the hour cometh and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in Spirit and in truth; for the Father also seeketh such to worship Him. God is a Spirit; and they that worship Him must worship Him in spirit and in truth*¹⁷. And again, *But if I by the*

¹[Luke i. 41.](#)

²[Luke 1.43.](#)

³[Luke 1.67.](#)

⁴[Luke 1.76.](#)

⁵[Luke ii. 26-35.](#)

⁶[Cat. iii. 6.](#)

⁷[Matt. iii. 11.](#)

⁸[Luke xii. 49.](#)

⁹[John i. 33.](#)

¹⁰[Matt. iii. 16.](#)

¹¹τὰς ἀπαρχὰς καὶ τὰ πρωτεῖα. The order is inverted in the translation. Cf. *Hermas, Sim. viii. 7* ἔχοντες ζῆλόν τινα ἐν ἀλλήλοις περὶ πρωτείων.

¹²The Benedictine Editor adds the two last words τύπον παραδελουῖν from MSS. Roe. Casaub. as necessary to the construction, and adds the following note. “The text thus emended is capable of two senses. The first, that the Holy Spirit came down in the form of a dove, a pure and harmless bird, to shew that He is Himself as it were a mystic dove in His simplicity and love of children, for whose new birth and remission of sins at Baptism He unites His prayers with Christ’s, as Cyril teaches in Cat. xvi. 20: and that Christ was for the like cause mystically foreshown in Canticles as having eyes like a dove’s. The other sense is, that the Spirit descended in the form of a dove on Christ’s Humanity in order to shew this to be as it were a dove in innocence, holiness, love of children, and concurrence with the Holy Spirit in their regeneration.... Either sense is admissible, and maintained by many of the Fathers: but I prefer the former.” This interpretation is confirmed by Tertullian (*de Baptismo*, c. viii.), who says that the Holy Spirit glided down on the Lord “in the shape of a dove” in order that the nature of the Holy Spirit might be declared by means of a creature of simplicity and innocence.”

¹³[Song of Sol. 5. 12.](#) ἐπὶ πληρώματα ὑδάτων (Sept.). The usual meaning of ὀφθαλμοφανῶς is “manifestly to the eyes,” [Esther viii. 13.](#)

¹⁴Tertullian, *ibid.* “Just as after the waters of the deluge, by which the old iniquity was purged—after the baptism, so to say, of the world—a dove was the herald which announced to the earth the assuagement of celestial wrath, . . . so to our flesh, as it emerges from the font after its old sins, flies the dove of the Holy Spirit, bringing us the peace of God, sent out from heaven where the Church is, the typified ark.” Compare also Hippolytus, *The Holy Theophany*, §§ 8, 9, a treatise with which Cyril has much in common.

¹⁵[John iii. 5.](#)

¹⁶[Luke xi. 13.](#)

¹⁷[John iv. 23.](#)

127

Spirit of God cast out devils¹; and immediately afterwards, *Therefore I say unto you, All manner of sin and blasphemy shall be forgiven unto men; but the blasphemy against the Holy Ghost shall not be forgiven. And whosoever shall speak a word against the Son of man, it shall be forgiven him; but whosoever shall speak a word against the Holy Ghost, it shall not be forgiven him, neither in this world, neither in the world to come²*. And again He says, *And I will pray the Father, and He shall give you another Comforter, that He may be with you for ever, the Spirit of Truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth Him not, neither knoweth Him; but ye know Him, for He abideth with you, and shall be in you³*. And again He says, *These things have I spoken unto you being yet present with you. But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in My name, He shall teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all things that I said unto you⁴*. And again He says, *But when the Comforter is come, whom I will send unto you from the Father, even the Spirit of Truth, which proceedeth from the Father, He shall testify of Me⁵*. And again the Saviour says, *For if I go not away, the Comforter will not come unto you⁶ And when He is come, He will convince the world of sin, of righteousness, and of judgment⁷*; and afterwards again, *I have yet many things to say unto you, but ye cannot bear them now. Howbeit, when He the Spirit of Truth is come, He will declare unto you all the truth; for He shall not speak from Himself; but whatsoever He shall hear that shall He speak, and He shall announce unto you the things to come. He shall glorify Me, for He shall take of Mine, and shall announce it unto you. All things that the Father hath are mine; therefore said I, That He shall take of Mine, and shall announce it unto you⁸*. I have read to thee now the utterances of the Only-begotten Himself, that thou mayest not give heed to men’s words.

12. The fellowship of this Holy Spirit He bestowed on the Apostles; for it is written, *And when He had said this, He breathed on them, and saith unto them, Receive ye the Holy Ghost: whose soever sins ye remit, they are remitted unto them; and whose soever sins ye retain, they are retained⁹*. This was the second time He breathed on man (His first breath¹⁰ having been stifled through wilful sins); that the Scripture might be fulfilled, *He went up breathing upon thy face, and delivering thee from affliction¹¹*. But whence went He up? From Hades; for thus the Gospel relates, that then after His resurrection He breathed on them. But though He bestowed His grace then, He was to lavish it yet more bountifully; and He says to them, “I am ready to give it even now, but the vessel cannot yet hold it; for a while therefore receive ye as much grace as ye can bear; and look forward for yet more; *but tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem, until ye be clothed with power from on high¹²*. Receive it in part now; then, ye shall wear it in its

fulness. For he who receives, often possesses the gift but in part; but he who is clothed, is completely enfolded by his robe. "Fear not," He says, "the weapons and darts of the devil; for ye shall bear with you the power of the Holy Ghost." But remember what was lately said, that the Holy Ghost is not divided, but only the grace which is given by Him.

13. Jesus therefore went up into heaven, and fulfilled the promise. For He said to them, *I will pray the Father, and He shall give you another Comforter*¹³. So they were sitting, looking for the coming of the Holy Ghost; *and when the day of Pentecost was fully come*, here, in this city of Jerusalem,—(for this honour also belongs to us¹⁴; and we speak not of the good things which have happened among others, but of those which have been vouchsafed among ourselves,)—on the day of Pentecost, I say, they were sitting, and the Comforter came down from heaven, the Guardian and Sanctifier of the Church, the Ruler of souls, the Pilot of the tempest-tossed, who leads the wanderers to the light, and presides over the combatants, and crowns the victors.

14. But He came down to clothe the Apostles with power, and to baptize them; for the Lord says, *ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost not many days hence*¹⁵. This grace was not in part, but His power was in full perfection; for as he who plunges into the waters and is baptized is encompassed on all sides by the waters, so were they also baptized completely by the Holy Ghost. The water however flows round the outside only, but the Spirit baptizes also the soul within, and that completely. And wherefore wonderest thou? Take an example from matter; poor indeed and common, yet useful for the simpler sort. If the fire passing in through the mass of the iron makes the whole of it

¹[Matt. xii. 28.](#)

²[Matt. 12.31.](#)

³[John xiv. 16.](#)

⁴[John 14.25.](#)

⁵[John 15.26.](#)

⁶[John 16.7.](#)

⁷[John 16.8.](#)

⁸[John 16.12-15.](#)

⁹[John xx. 22.](#)

¹⁰[Gen. ii. 7:](#) *and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life.* Compare Cat. xiv. 10.

¹¹[Nahum ii. 1.](#) The Septuagint, followed by Cyril, differs widely from the Hebrew: (R.V.) *He that dasheth in pieces is come up before thy face.*

¹²[Luke xxiv. 39.](#)

¹³[John xiv. 16.](#)

¹⁴Cat. iii. 7; xvi. 5. Bp. Pearson (*Lectiones in Acta Apost. I. § 18*): "Rightly said Cyril, Bishop of Jerusalem, 'All prerogatives are with us.' And the Emperor Justin called her 'Mother of the Christian name.' Jerome also (*Ep. 17, 3*), said: 'The whole mystery of our Faith is native of that province and city.'"

¹⁵[Acts i. 5.](#)

fire, so that what was cold becomes burning and what was black is made bright,—if fire which is a body thus penetrates and works without hindrance in iron which is also a body, why wonder that the Holy Ghost enters into the very inmost recesses of the soul?

15. And lest men should be ignorant of the greatness of the mighty gift coming down to them, there sounded as it were a heavenly trumpet, *For suddenly there came from heaven a sound as of the rushing of a mighty wind¹*, signifying the presence of Him who was to grant power unto men to seize with violence the kingdom of God; that both their eyes might see the fiery tongues, and their ears hear the sound. *And it filled all the house where they were sitting*; for the house became the vessel of the spiritual water; as the disciples sat within, the whole house was filled. Thus they were entirely baptized according to the promise, and invested soul and body with a divine garment of salvation. *And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them; and they were all filled with the Holy Ghost.* They partook of fire, not of burning but of saving fire; of fire which consumes the thorns of sins, but gives lustre to the soul. This is now coming upon you also, and that to strip away and consume your sins which are like thorns, and to brighten yet more that precious possession of your souls, and to give you grace; for He gave it then to the Apostles. And He sat upon them in the form of fiery tongues, that they might crown themselves with new and spiritual diadems by fiery tongues upon their heads. A fiery sword barred of old the gates of Paradise; a fiery tongue which brought salvation restored the gift.

16. *And they began to speak with other tongues as the Spirit gave them utterance²*. The Galilean Peter or Andrew spoke Persian or Median. John and the rest of the Apostles spoke every tongue to those of Gentile extraction; for not in our time have multitudes of strangers first begun to assemble here from all quarters, but they have done so since that time. What teacher can be found so great as to teach men all at once things which they have not learned? So many years are they in learning by grammar and other arts to speak only Greek well; nor yet do all speak this equally well; the Rhetorician perhaps succeeds in speaking well, and the Grammarian sometimes not well, and the skilful Grammarian is ignorant of the subjects of philosophy. But the Holy Spirit taught them many languages at once, languages which in all their life they never knew. This is in truth vast wisdom, this is power divine. What a contrast of their long ignorance in time past to their sudden, complete and varied and unaccustomed exercise of these languages!

17. The multitude of the hearers was confounded;—it was a second confusion, in the room of that first evil one at Babylon. For in that confusion of tongues there was division of purpose, because their thought was at enmity with God; but here minds were restored and united, because the object of interest was godly. The means of falling were the means of recovery. Wherefore they marvelled, saying³, *How hear we them speaking?* No marvel if ye be ignorant; for even Nicodemus was ignorant of the coming of the Spirit, and to him it was said, *The Spirit breatheth where it listeth, and thou hearest the voice thereof, but canst not tell whence it cometh, and whither it goeth⁴*; but if, even though I hear His voice, I know not whence he cometh, how can I explain, what He is Himself in substance?

18. *But others mocking said, They are full of new wine⁵*, and they spoke truly though in mockery. For in truth the wine was new, even the grace of the New Testament; but this new wine was from a spiritual Vine, which had oftentimes ere this borne fruit in Prophets, and had budded in the New Testament. For as in things sensible, the vine ever remains the same, but bears new fruits in its seasons, so also the self-same Spirit continuing what He is, as He had often wrought in Prophets, now manifested a new and marvellous work. For though His grace had come before to the Fathers also, yet here it came exuberantly; for formerly men only partook of the Holy Ghost, but now they were baptized completely.

19. But Peter who had the Holy Ghost, and who knew what he possessed, says, “*Men of Israel, ye who preach Joel, but know not the things which are written, these men are not drunken as ye suppose⁶*. Drunken they are, not however as ye suppose, but according to that which is written, *They shall be drunken with the fatness of thy house; and thou shalt make them drink of the torrents of thy pleasure⁷*. They are drunken, with a sober drunkenness, deadly to sin and life-giving to the heart, a drunkenness contrary to that of the body; for this last causes forgetfulness even of what was known, but that bestows the knowledge even of what was not known. They are drunken, for they have drunk the wine of the spiritual vine, which says, *I am the vine and ye*

¹Acts ii. 2.

²[Acts 2.4.](#)

³[Acts ii. 8.](#)

⁴[John iii. 8.](#) (R.V.) *The wind bloweth:* (Marg.) Or, *The Spirit breatheth.* It is impossible to preserve the double meaning in English.

⁵[Acts ii. 13.](#)

⁶[Acts 2.15.](#)

⁷[Ps. xxxvi. 8.](#)

129

are the branches¹. But if ye are not persuaded by me, understand what I tell you from the very time of the day; for it is the third hour of the day². For He who, as Mark relates, was crucified at the third hour, now at the third hour sent down His grace. For His grace is not other than the Spirit's grace, but He who was then crucified, who also gave the promise, made good that which He promised. And if ye would receive a testimony also, *Listen*, he says: "*But this is that which was spoken by the prophet Joel; And it shall come to pass after this, saith God, I will pour forth of My Spirit³—(and this word, I will pour forth, implied a rich gift; for God giveth not the Spirit by measure, for the Father loveth the Son, and hath given all things into His hand⁴; and He has given Him the power also of bestowing the grace of the All-holy Spirit on whomsoever He will);—I will pour forth of My Spirit unto all flesh, and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and afterwards, Yea, and on My servants and on My handmaidens I will pour out in those days of My Spirit, and they shall prophesy⁵.*" The Holy Ghost is no respecter of persons; for He seeks not dignities, but piety of soul. Let neither the rich be puffed up, nor the poor dejected, but only let each prepare himself for reception of the Heavenly gift.

20. We have said much to-day, and perchance you are weary of listening; yet more still remains. And in truth for the doctrine of the Holy Ghost there were need of a third lecture; and of many besides. But we must have your indulgence on both points. For as the Holy Festival of Easter is now at hand we have this day lengthened our discourse and yet we had not room to bring before you all the testimonies from the New Testament which we ought. For many passages are still to come from the Acts of the Apostles in which the grace of the Holy Ghost wrought mightily in Peter and in all the Apostles together; many also from the Catholic Epistles, and the fourteen Epistles of Paul; out of all which we will now endeavour to gather a few, like flowers from a large meadow, merely by way of remembrance.

21. For in the power of the Holy Ghost, by the will of Father and Son, Peter stood with the Eleven, and lifting up his voice, (according to the text, *Lift up thy voice with strength, thou that bringest good tidings to Jerusalem⁶*), captured in the spiritual net of his words, *about three thousand souls*. So great was the grace which wrought in all the Apostles together, that, out of the Jews, those crucifiers of Christ, this great number believed, and were baptized in the Name of Christ, and *continued steadfastly in the Apostles' doctrine and in the prayers⁷*. And again in the same power of the Holy Ghost, *Peter and John went up into the Temple at the hour of prayer, which was the ninth hour⁸*, and in the Name of Jesus healed the man at the Beautiful gate, who had been lame from his mother's womb for forty years; that it might be fulfilled which was spoken, *Then shall the lame man leap as an hart⁹*. And thus, as they captured in the spiritual net of their doctrine five thousand believers at once, so they confuted the misguided rulers of the people and chief priests, and that, not through their own wisdom, for *they were unlearned and ignorant men¹⁰*, but through the mighty power of the Holy Ghost; for it is written, *Then Peter filled with the Holy Ghost said to them¹¹*. So great also was the grace of the Holy Ghost, which wrought by means of the Twelve Apostles in them who believed, that *they were of one heart and of one soul¹²*, and their enjoyment of their goods was common, the possessors piously offering the prices of their possessions, and no one among them wanting aught; while Ananias and Sapphira, who attempted to lie to the Holy Ghost, underwent their befitting punishment.

22. *And by the hands of the Apostles were many signs and wonders wrought among the people¹³*. And so great was the spiritual grace shed around the Apostles, that gentle as they were, they were the objects of dread; for *of the rest durst no man join himself to them; but the people magnified them; and multitudes were added of those who believed on the Lord, both of men and women;* and the streets were filled with the sick on their beds and couches,

that as Peter passed by, at least his shadow might overshadow some of them. And the multitude also of the cities round about came unto this holy Jerusalem, bringing sick folk, and them that were vexed with unclean spirits, and they were healed every one in this power of the Holy Ghost¹⁴.

23. Again, after the Twelve Apostles had been cast into prison by the chief priests for preaching Christ, and had been marvellously delivered from it at night by an Angel, and were brought before them in the judgment hall from the Temple, they fearlessly rebuked them in their discourse to them concerning Christ, and added this, that God hath also given His Holy Spirit to them that obey Him¹⁵. And

¹[John xv. 5.](#)

²[Acts 2.25,15.](#)

³[Joel ii. 28.](#)

⁴[John iii. 34, 35.](#)

⁵[Joel ii. 29.](#)

⁶[Is. xl. 9.](#)

⁷[Acts ii. 42.](#)

⁸[Acts 3.1.](#)

⁹[Is. xxxv. 6.](#)

¹⁰[Acts iv. 13.](#)

¹¹[Acts 4.8.](#)

¹²[Acts 4.32.](#)

¹³[Acts v. 12.](#)

¹⁴[Acts 5.13-16.](#)

¹⁵[Acts 5.32.](#)

130

when they had been scourged, they went their way rejoicing, and ceased not to *teach and preach Jesus as the Christ*¹.

24. And it was not in the Twelve Apostles only that the grace of the Holy Spirit wrought, but also in the first-born children of this once barren Church, I mean the seven Deacons; for these also were chosen, as it is written, being *full of the Holy Ghost and of wisdom*². Of whom Stephen, rightly so named³, the first fruits of the Martyrs, a man *full of faith and of the Holy Ghost, wrought great wonders and miracles among the people*, and vanquished those who disputed with him; *for they were not able to resist the wisdom and the Spirit by which he spake*⁴. But when he was maliciously accused and brought to the judgment hall, he was radiant with angelic brightness; for *all they who sat in the council, looking steadfastly on him, saw his face, as it had been the face of an Angel*⁵. And having by his wise defence confuted the Jews, those *stiffnecked men, uncircumcised in heart and ears, ever resisting the Holy Ghost*⁶, he beheld *the heavens opened, and saw the Son of Man standing on the right hand of God*. He saw

Him, not by his own power, but, as the Divine Scripture says, *being full of the Holy Ghost, he looked up steadfastly into heaven, and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing on the right hand of God*⁷.

25. In this power of the Holy Ghost, Philip also in the Name of Christ at one time in the city of Samaria drove away the unclean spirits, *crying out with a loud voice*; and healed the palsied and the lame, and brought to Christ great multitudes of them that believe. To whom Peter and John came down, and with prayer, and the laying on of hands, imparted the fellowship of the Holy Ghost, from which Simon Magus alone was declared an alien, and that justly. And at another time Philip was called by the Angel of the Lord in the way, for the sake of that most godly Ethiopian, the Eunuch, and heard distinctly the Spirit Himself saying, *Go near, and join thyself to this chariot*⁸. He instructed the Eunuch, and baptized him, and so having sent into Ethiopia a herald of Christ, according as it is written, *Ethiopia shall soon stretch out her hand unto God*⁹, he was caught away by the Angel, and preached the Gospel in the cities in succession.

26. With this Holy Spirit Paul also had been filled after his calling by our Lord Jesus Christ. Let godly Ananias come as a witness to what we say, he who in Damascus said to him, *The Lord, even Jesus who appeared to thee in the way which thou camest, hath sent me, that thou mayest receive thy sight, and be filled with the Holy Ghost*¹⁰. And straightway the Spirit's mighty working changed the blindness of Paul's eyes into newness of sight; and having vouchsafed His seal unto his soul, made him *a chosen vessel to bear the Name* of the Lord who had appeared to him, *before kings and the children of Israel*, and rendered the former persecutor an ambassador and good servant,—one, who *from Jerusalem, and even unto Illyricum, fully preached the Gospel*¹¹, and instructed even imperial Rome, and carried the earnestness of his preaching as far as Spain, undergoing conflicts innumerable, and performing signs and wonders. Of him for the present enough.

27. In the power of the same Holy Spirit Peter also, the chief of the Apostles and the bearer of the keys¹² of the kingdom of heaven, healed Æneas the paralytic in the Name of Christ at Lydda, which is now Diospolis, and at Joppa raised from the dead Tabitha rich in good works. And being on the housetop in a trance, he saw heaven opened, and by means of the vessel let down as it were a sheet full of beasts of every shape and sort, he learnt plainly to call no man common or unclean, though he should be of the Greeks¹³. And when he was sent for by Cornelius, he heard clearly the Holy Ghost Himself saying, *Behold, men seek thee; but arise and get thee down, and go with them, nothing doubting; for I have sent them*¹⁴. And that it might be plainly shewn that those of the Gentiles also who believe are made partakers of the grace of the Holy Ghost, when Peter was come to Cesarea, and was teaching the things concerning Christ, the Scripture says concerning Cornelius and them who were with him; *While Peter yet spake these words, the Holy Ghost fell on all them which heard the word; so that they of the circumcision also which came with Peter were astonished, and when they understood it said that on the Gentiles also was poured out the gift of the Holy Ghost*¹⁵.

28. And in Antioch also, a most renowned city of Syria, when the preaching of Christ took effect, Barnabas was sent hence as far as Antioch to help on the good work, being a *good man, and full of the Holy Ghost, and of faith*¹⁶; who seeing a great harvest of believers in Christ, brought Paul from Tarsus to Antioch, as his fellow-combatant. And when crowds had been instructed by them and assembled in the Church, *it came to pass that the disciples were called Christians first in Antioch*¹⁷; the Holy Ghost, methinks, bestowing on the believers that new Name, which had been promised be

¹[Acts v. 42.](#)

²[Acts 6.3.](#)

³[Acts 6.8.](#) Στέφανος, "a crown."

⁴[Acts 6.10.](#)

⁵[Acts 6.15.](#)

⁶[Acts 7.51.](#)

⁷[Acts 7.55.](#)

⁸[Acts 8.5.](#)

⁹[Ps. lxxviii. 31.](#)

¹⁰[Acts ix. 17.](#)

¹¹[Rom. xv. 19.](#)

¹²[κλειδοῦχος](#). Cf. [Matt. xvi. 19](#); Cat. ii. 19; xi. 3.

¹³[Acts x. 11-16.](#)

¹⁴[Acts 10.19.](#)

¹⁵[Acts 10.44.](#)

¹⁶[Acts 11.24.](#)

¹⁷[Acts 11.26](#); [Isa. 65.15.](#)

131

fore by the Lord. And the grace of the Spirit being shed forth by God more abundantly in Antioch, there were there prophets and teachers of whom Agabus was one¹. And *as they ministered to the Lord and fasted, the Holy Ghost said, Separate Me Barnabas and Saul for the work whereunto I have called them.* And after hands had been laid on them, *they were sent forth by the Holy Ghost*². Now it is manifest, that the Spirit which speaks and sends, is a living Spirit, subsisting, and operating, as we have said.

29. This Holy Spirit, who in unison with Father and Son has established the New Covenant in the Church Catholic, has set us free from the burdens of the law grievous to be borne,—those I mean, concerning things common and unclean, and meats, and sabbaths, and new moons, and circumcision, and sprinklings, and sacrifices; which were given for a season, and *had a shadow of the good things to come*³, but which, when the truth had come, were rightly withdrawn. For when Paul and Barnabas were sent to the Apostles, because of the question moved at Antioch by them who said that it was necessary to be circumcised and to keep the customs of Moses, the Apostles who were here at Jerusalem by a written injunction set free the whole world from all the legal and typical observances; yet they attributed not to themselves the full authority in so great a matter, but send an injunction in writing, and acknowledge this: *For it hath seemed good unto the Holy Ghost and to us, to lay upon you no greater burden than these necessary things; that ye abstain from things sacrificed to idols, and from blood, and from things strangled, and from fornication*⁴; shewing evidently by what they wrote, that though the writing was by the hands of human Apostles, yet the decree is universal from the Holy Ghost: which decree Paul and Barnabas took and confirmed unto all the world.

30. And now, having proceeded thus far in my discourse, I ask indulgence from your love⁵, or rather from the Spirit who dwelt in Paul, if I should not be able to rehearse everything, by reason of my own weakness, and your weariness who listen. For when shall I in terms worthy of Himself declare the marvellous deeds wrought by the operation of the Holy Ghost in the Name of Christ? Those wrought in Cyprus upon Elymas the sorcerer, and in Lystra at the healing of the cripple, and in Cilicia and Phrygia and Galatia and Mysia and Macedonia? or those at Philippi (the preaching, I mean, and the driving out of the spirit of divination in the Name of Christ; and the salvation by baptism of the jailer with his whole house at night after the earthquake); or the events at Thessalonica; and the address at Areopagus in the midst of the Athenians; or the instructions at Corinth, and in all Achaia? How shall I worthily recount the mighty deeds which were wrought at Ephesus through Paul, by the Holy Ghost⁶? Whom they of that City knew not before, but came to know Him by the doctrine of Paul; and when Paul had laid his hands on them, and the Holy Ghost had come upon them, *they spake with tongues, and prophesied.* And so great spiritual grace was upon him, that not only his touch wrought cures, but even the *handkerchiefs and napkins*⁷, brought

from his body, healed diseases, and scared away the evil spirits; and at last *they also who practised curious arts brought their books together, and burned them before all men*⁸.

31. I pass by the work wrought at Troas on Eutychus, who *being borne down by his sleep fell down from the third loft, and was taken up dead*; yet was saved alive by Paul⁹. I also pass by the prophecies addressed to the Elders of Ephesus whom he called to him in Miletus, to whom he openly said, *That the Holy Ghost witnesseth in every city, saying*¹⁰—and the rest; for by saying, *in every city*, Paul made manifest that the marvellous works done by him in each city, were from the operative power of the Holy Ghost, by the will of God, and in the Name of Christ who spoke in him. By the power of this Holy Ghost, the same Paul was hastening to this holy city Jerusalem, and this, though Agabus by the Spirit foretold what should befall him; and yet he spoke to the people with confidence, declaring the things concerning Christ. And when brought to Cesarea, and set amid tribunals of justice, at one time before Felix, and at another before Festus the governor and King Agrippa, Paul obtained of the Holy Ghost grace so great, and triumphant in wisdom, that at last Agrippa himself the king of the Jews said, *Almost thou persuadest me to be a Christian*¹¹. This Holy Spirit granted to Paul, when he was in the island of Melita also, to receive no harm when bitten by the viper, and to effect divers cures on the diseased. This Holy Spirit guided him, the persecutor of old, as a herald of Christ, even as far as imperial Rome, and there he persuaded many of the Jews to believe in Christ, and to them who gainsaid he said plainly, *Well spake the Holy Ghost by Esaias the Prophet, saying unto your fathers, and the rest*¹².

¹[Acts xi. 28.](#)

²[Acts 13.2-4.](#)

³[Heb. x. 1.](#)

⁴[Acts xv. 28, 29.](#) ἐπιστολή means a *message* or *injunction* whether verbal or written.

⁵See note 1 on § 1, above.

⁶[Acts xix. 1-6.](#)

⁷[Acts 19.12.](#)

⁸[Acts 19.19.](#)

⁹[Acts 20.9-12.](#)

¹⁰[Acts 20.23.](#)

¹¹[Acts 26.28.](#) Cyril evidently understood ἐν ὀλίγῳ to mean “almost” (A.V.): but the more correct rendering is, “In brief thou wouldest persuade me to become a Christian.”

¹²[Acts 28.25.](#)

32. And that Paul was full of the Holy Ghost, and all his fellow Apostles, and they who after them believed in Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, hear from himself as he writes plainly in his Epistles; *And my speech, he says, and my preaching was not in persuasive words of man’s wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power*¹. And again, *But He who sealed us for this very purpose is God, who gave us the earnest of the Spirit*². And again, *He that raised up Jesus from the dead shall also quicken your mortal bodies by His Spirit which dwelleth in you*³. And again, writing to Timothy, *That good thing which was committed to thee guard through the Holy Ghost which was given to us*⁴.

33. And that the Holy Ghost subsists, and lives, and speaks, and foretells, I have often said in what goes before, and Paul writes it plainly to Timothy: *Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in later times some shall depart from the faith*⁵,—which we see in the divisions not only of former times but also of our own; so motley and diversified are the errors of the heretics. And again the same Paul says, *Which in other generations was not made known unto the sons of men, as it hath now been revealed unto His Holy Apostles and Prophets in the Spirit*⁶. And again, *Wherefore, as saith the Holy Ghost*⁷; and again, *The Holy Ghost also witnesseth to us*⁸. And again he calls unto the soldiers of righteousness, saying, *And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the Word of God, with all prayer and supplication*⁹. And again, *Be not drunk with wine, wherein is excess; but be filled with the Spirit, speaking to yourselves in psalms, and hymns, and spiritual songs*¹⁰. And again, *The grace of the Lord Jesus, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Ghost be with you all*¹¹.

34. By all these proofs, and by more which have been passed over, is the personal, and sanctifying, and effectual power of the Holy Ghost established for those who can understand; for the time would fail me in my discourse if I wished to quote what yet remains concerning the Holy Ghost from the fourteen Epistles of Paul, wherein he has taught with such variety, completeness, and reverence. And to the power of the Holy Ghost Himself it must belong, to grant to us forgiveness for what we have omitted because the days are few, and upon you the hearers to impress more perfectly the knowledge of what yet remains; while from the frequent reading of the sacred Scriptures those of you who are diligent come to understand these things, and by this time, both from these present Lectures, and from what has before been told you, hold more steadfastly the Faith in “ONE GOD THE FATHER ALMIGHTY; AND IN OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, HIS ONLY-BEGOTTEN SON; AND IN THE HOLY GHOST THE COMFORTER.” Though the word itself and title of Spirit is applied to Them in common in the sacred Scriptures,—for it is said of the Father, *God is a Spirit*¹², as it is written in the Gospel according to John; and of the Son, *A Spirit before our face, Christ the Lord*¹³, as Jeremias the prophet says; and of the Holy Ghost, *the Comforter, the Holy Ghost*¹⁴, as was said;—yet the arrangement of articles in the Faith, if religiously understood, disproves the error of Sabellius also¹⁵. Return we therefore in our discourse to the point which now presses and is profitable to you.

35. Beware lest ever like Simon thou come to the dispensers of Baptism in hypocrisy, thy heart the while not seeking the truth. It is ours to protest, but it is thine to secure thyself. If *thou standest in faith*¹⁶, blessed art thou; if thou hast fallen in unbelief, from this day forward cast away thine unbelief, and receive full assurance. For, at the season of baptism, when thou art come before the Bishops, or Presbyters, or Deacons¹⁷,—(for its grace is everywhere, in villages and in cities, on them of low as on them of high degree, on bondsmen and on freemen, for this grace is not of men, but the gift is from God through men,)—approach the Minister of Baptism, but approaching, think not of the face of him thou seest, but remember this Holy Ghost of whom we are now speaking. For He is present in readiness to seal thy soul, and He shall give thee that Seal at which evil spirits tremble, a heavenly and sacred seal, as also it is written, *In whom also ye believed, and were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise*¹⁸.

36. Yet He tries the soul. He casts not His pearls before swine; if thou play the hypocrite, though men baptize thee now, the Holy Spirit will not baptize thee¹⁹. But if thou approach with faith, though men minister in what is seen, the Holy Ghost bestows that which is unseen. Thou art coming to a great trial,

¹¹ [Cor. ii. 4.](#)

²² [Cor. i. 22.](#)

³ [Rom. viii. 11.](#)

⁴² [Tim. i. 14:](#) (R.V.) *by the Holy Ghost which dwelleth in us.*

⁵ [1 Tim. iv. 1.](#)

⁶ [Eph. iii. 5.](#)

⁷ [Heb. iii. 7.](#)

⁸[Heb. 10.15.](#)

⁹[Eph. vi. 17.](#)

¹⁰[Eph. 6.18,19.](#)

¹¹[2 Cor. xiii. 14.](#)

¹²[John iv. 24.](#)

¹³[Lam. iv. 20.](#) *The breath of our nostrils, the anointed of the Lord:* referring to the captive king.

¹⁴[John xiv. 25.](#)

¹⁵The distinct mention in the Creed of three Persons excludes the error of Sabellius in confusing them. Cf. Cat. iv. 8; xvi. 14.

¹⁶[Rom. xi. 20.](#)

¹⁷Cf. Bingham, *Antiquities*, II. xx. 9. "When Cyril directs his Catechumens how they should behave themselves at the time of Baptism, when they came either before a bishop, or presbyter, or deacon, in city or village,—this may be presumed a fair intimation that then deacons were ordinarily allowed to minister Baptism in country places." See further 'Of the power granted anciently to deacons to baptize,' Bingham, *Lay Baptism*, I. i. 5.

¹⁸[Eph. i. 13.](#) Cf. Cat. i. 2, 3.

¹⁹Cf. Procat. § 4: "The water will receive, but the Spirit will not accept thee."

133

to a great muster¹, in that one hour, which if thou throw away, thy disaster is irretrievable; but if thou be counted worthy of the grace, thy soul will be enlightened, thou wilt receive a power which thou hadst not, thou wilt receive weapons terrible to the evil spirits; and if thou cast not away thine arms, but keep the Seal upon thy soul, no evil spirit will approach thee; for he will be cowed; for verily by the Spirit of God are the evil spirits cast out.

37. If thou believe, thou shalt not only receive remission of sins, but also do things which pass man's power². And mayest thou be worthy of the gift of prophecy also! For thou shalt receive grace according to the measure of thy capacity and not of my words; for I may possibly speak of but small things, yet thou mayest receive greater; since faith is a large affair³. All thy life long will thy guardian the Comforter abide with thee; He will care for thee, as for his own soldier; for thy goings out, and thy comings in, and thy plotting foes. And He will give thee gifts of grace of every kind, if thou grieve Him not by sin; for it is written, *And grieve not the Holy Spirit of God, whereby ye were sealed unto the day of redemption*⁴. What then, beloved, is it to preserve grace? Be ye ready to receive grace, and when ye have received it, cast it not away.

38. And may the very God of All, who spake by the Holy Ghost through the prophets, who sent Him forth upon the Apostles on the day of Pentecost in this place, Himself send Him forth at this time also upon you; and by Him keep us also, imparting His benefit in common to us all, that we may ever render up the fruits of the Holy Ghost, *love, joy, peace, long-suffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance*⁵, in Christ Jesus our Lord:—By whom and with whom, together with the Holy Ghost, be glory to the Father, both now, and ever, and for ever and ever. Amen.

¹στρατολογία. Cf. Cat. iii. 3, μέλλετε στρατολογεῖσθαι.

²The same twofold grace is ascribed to Baptism in Cat. xiii. 23: "Thou receivest now remission of thy sins, and the gifts of the King's spiritual bounty."

³πραγματεία. Cf. [2 Tim. 2.4](#); [Luke 19.13](#): *Trade* (πραγματεύεοθε) *till I come*.

⁴[Eph. iv. 30](#).

⁵[Gal. v. 22, 23](#).

134

Lecture XVIII.

On the Words, And in One Holy Catholic Church, and in the Resurrection of the Flesh, and the Life Everlasting.

[EZEKIEL XXXVII. 1](#)

The hand of the Lord was upon me, and carried me out in the Spirit of the Lord, and set me down in the midst of the valley which was full of bones.

1. THE root of all good works is the hope of the Resurrection; for the expectation of the recompense nerves the soul to good works. For every labourer is ready to endure the toils, if he sees their reward in prospect; but when men weary themselves for nought, their heart soon sinks as well as their body. A soldier who expects a prize is ready for war, but no one is forward to die for a king who is indifferent about those who serve under him, and bestows no honours on their toils. In like manner every soul believing in a Resurrection is naturally careful of itself; but, disbelieving it, abandons itself to perdition. He who believes that his body shall remain to rise again, is careful of his robe, and defiles it not with fornication; but he who disbelieves the Resurrection, gives himself to fornication, and misuses his own body, as though it were not his own. Faith therefore in the Resurrection of the dead, is a great commandment and doctrine of the Holy Catholic Church; great and most necessary, though gainsaid by many, yet surely warranted by the truth. Greeks contradict it¹, Samaritans² disbelieve it, heretics³ mutilate it; the contradiction is manifold, but the truth is uniform.

2. Now Greeks and Samaritans together argue against us thus. The dead man has fallen, and mouldered away, and is all turned into worms; and the worms have died also; such is the decay and destruction which has overtaken the body; how then is it to be raised? The shipwrecked have been devoured by fishes, which are themselves devoured. Of them who fight with wild beasts the very bones are ground to powder, and consumed by bears and lions. Vultures and ravens feed on the flesh of the unburied dead, and then fly away over all the world; whence then is the body to be collected? For of the fowls who have devoured it some may chance to die in India, some in Persia, some in the land of the Goths. Other men again are consumed by fire, and their very ashes scattered by rain or wind; whence is the body to be brought together again⁴?

3. To thee, poor little feeble man, India is far from the land of the Goths, and Spain from Persia; but to God, who holds the whole *earth in the hollow of His hand*⁵, all things are near at hand. Impute not then weakness to God, from a comparison of thy feebleness, but rather dwell on His power⁶. Does then the sun, a small work of God, by one glance of his beams give warmth to the whole world; does the atmosphere, which God has made, encompass all things in the world; and is God, who is the Creator both of the sun, and of the atmosphere, far off from the world? Imagine a mixture of seeds of different plants (for as thou art weak concerning the faith, the examples which I allege are weak also), and that these different seeds are contained in thy single hand; is it then to thee, who art a man, a difficult or an easy matter to separate what is in thine hand, and to collect each seed according to its nature, and restore it to its own kind? Canst thou then separate the things in thine hand, and cannot God separate the things contained in His hand, and restore them to their proper place? Consider what I say, whether it is not impious to deny it?

4. But further, attend, I pray, to the very principle of justice, and come to thine own case. Thou hast different sorts of servants: and some are good and some bad;

¹[Acts xvii. 32; xxvi. 24.](#)

²Cf. § 12, below.

³Tertull. *De Resurr. carnis*, cap. 2: "They acknowledge a half-resurrection, to wit of the soul only." Compare Iren. I. xxiii. 5, on Menander's assertion that his disciples attain to the resurrection by being baptized into him, and can die no more, but retain immortal youth: *ib.* xxiv. 5. Basilides taught that "salvation belongs to the soul alone." On the other forms of heresy concerning the Resurrection, see Suicer, *Thesaurus*, Ἀνάστασις.

⁴The objections noticed in § 2 are discussed by Athenagoras, *De Resurr.* capp. ii., iv.—viii.; Tatian. *Or. ad Græcos*, cap. vi., Tertull. *De Resurr. Carn.* cap. 63.

⁵[Is. xl. 12.](#)

⁶On the argument from God's power compare Athenagoras, *De Resurr.* c. ix; Justin. M. *De Resurr.* c. v; Theophil. *ad Autolyc.* c. xiii.; Iren. V. iii. 2.

135

thou honourest therefore the good, and smitest the bad. And if thou art a judge, to the good thou awardest praise, and to the transgressors, punishment. Is then justice observed by thee a mortal man; and with God, the ever changeless King of all, is there no retributive justice¹? Nay, to deny it is impious. For consider what I say. Many murderers have died in their beds unpunished; where then is the righteousness of God? Yea, oftentimes a murderer guilty of fifty murders is beheaded once; where then shall he suffer punishment for the forty and nine? Unless there is a judgment and a retribution after this world, thou chargest God with unrighteousness. Marvel not, however, because of the delay of the judgment; no combatant is crowned or disgraced, till the contest is over; and no president of the games ever crowns men while yet striving, but he waits till all the combatants are finished, that then deciding between them he may dispense the prizes and the chaplets². Even thus God also, so long as the strife in this world lasts, succours the just but partially, but afterwards He renders to them their rewards fully.

5. But if according to thee there is no resurrection of the dead, wherefore condemnest thou the robbers of graves? For if the body perishes, and there is no resurrection to be hoped for, why does the violator of the tomb undergo punishment? Thou seest that though thou deny it with thy lips, there yet abides with thee an indestructible instinct of the resurrection.

6. Further, does a tree after it has been cut down blossom again, and shall man after being cut down blossom no more? And does the corn sown and reaped remain for the threshing floor, and shall man when reaped from this world not remain for the threshing? And do shoots of vine or other trees, when clean cut off and transplanted, come to life and bear fruit; and shall man, for whose sake all these exist, fall into the earth and not rise again? Comparing efforts, which is greater, to mould from the beginning a statue which did not exist, or to recast in the same shape that which had fallen? Is God then, who created us out of nothing, unable to raise again those who exist and are fallen³? But thou believest not what is written of the resurrection, being a Greek: then from the analogy of nature consider these matters, and understand them from what is seen to this day. Wheat, it may be, or some other kind of grain, is sown; and when the seed has fallen, it dies and rots, and is henceforth useless for food. But that which has rotted, springs up in verdure; and though small when sown, springs up most beautiful. Now wheat was made for us; for wheat and all seeds were created not for themselves, but for our use; are then the things which were made for us quickened when they die, and do we for whom they were made, not rise again after our death⁴?

7. The season is winter⁵, as thou seest; the trees now stand as if they were dead: for where are the leaves of the fig-tree? where are the clusters of the vine? These in winter time are dead, but green in spring; and when the season is come, there is restored to them a quickening as it were from a state of death. For God, knowing thine unbelief, works a resurrection year by year in these visible things; that, beholding what happens to things

inanimate, thou mayest believe concerning things animate and rational. Further, flies and bees are often drowned in water, yet after a while revive⁶; and species of dormice⁷, after remaining motionless during the winter, are restored in the summer (for to thy slight thoughts like examples are offered); and shall He who to irrational and despised creatures grants life supernaturally, not bestow it upon us, for whose sake He made them?

8. But the Greeks ask for a resurrection of the dead still manifest; and say that, even if these creatures are raised, yet they had not utterly mouldered away; and they require to see distinctly some creature rise again after complete decay. God knew men's unbelief, and provided for this purpose a bird, called a Phoenix⁸. This bird, as Clement writes, and

¹The argument from God's justice is treated by Athenagor. *De Resurr.* c. x. and xx.–xxiii.; Justin M. *De Resurr.* c. viii.

²τὴν στεφανηφορίαν. Roe. Cas. A. Cf. Pind. *Ol.* viii. 13; Eurip. *Electr.* 862.

³Athenag. *De Resurr.* c. iii.: "If, when they did not exist, He made at their first formation the bodies of men, and their original elements, He will, when they are dissolved, in whatever manner that may take place, raise them again with equal ease." Lactant. *Institt.* VII. 23 fin.: *Apost. Const.* V. 7.

⁴An eloquent statement of the argument for the resurrection from the analogies of nature occurs in Tertull. *De Resurr.* c. xii. That it was not unknown to Cyril, seems probable from the concluding sentence: "And surely if all things rise again for man, for whom they have been provided—but not for man unless for his flesh also—how can the flesh itself perish utterly, for the sake and service of which nothing is allowed to perish." Tertullian himself was probably indebted, as Bp. Lightfoot suggests, to Clemens. Rom. *Epist. ad Corinth.* xxiv. Cf. Lactant. *Div. Inst.* vii. 4.

⁵Cf. Cat. iv. 30. These passages shew that the Lectures were delivered in a year when Easter fell early, as was the case in 348 A.D.

⁶In such cases there is, of course, no actual death.

⁷The μυοξός is supposed by the Benedictine Editor to be the toad ("Inventusque cavis bufo," Virg. *Georg.* i. 185), by others the marmot (mus Alpinus). More probably it is the dormouse (myoxis glis), which stores up provisions for the winter, though it sleeps through much of that season.

⁸The story of the Phoenix as told by Herodotus, II. 73, is as follows: "They have also another sacred bird called the Phoenix, which I myself have never seen, except in pictures. Indeed it is a great rarity even in Egypt, only coming there (according to the accounts of the people of Heliopolis) once in five hundred years, when the old phoenix dies. ...They tell a story of what this bird does, which does not seem to me to be credible; that he comes all the way from Arabia, and brings the parent bird, all plastered over with myrrh, to the temple of the Sun, and there buries the body."

The many variations and fabulous accretions of the story are detailed by Suicer, *Thesaurus*, Φοῖνιξ, and by Bp. Lightfoot in a long and interesting note on Clemens Rom. *Epist. ad Cor.* xxv. Cyril borrows the story from Clement almost verbally, yet not without some variations, which will be noticed below. The legend with all its miraculous features is told by Ovid, *Metamorph.* xv. 392, by Claudian, *Phoenix*, and by the Pseudo-Lactantius in an Elegiac poem, *Phoenix*, included in Weber's *Corpus Poetarum Latinorum*, and literally translated in Clark's *Ante-Nicene Library*. See also Tertull. *De Resurr. Carn.* c. xiii.

as many more relate, being the only one of its kind¹, arrives in the land of the Egyptians at periods of five hundred years, shewing forth the resurrection, not in desert places, lest the occurrence of the mystery should remain unknown, but appearing in a notable city², that men might even handle what would otherwise be disbelieved. For it makes itself a coffin³ of frankincense and myrrh and other spices, and entering into this when its years are

fulfilled, it evidently dies and moulders away. Then from the decayed flesh of the dead bird a worm is engendered, and this worm when grown large is transformed into a bird;—and do not disbelieve this, for thou seest the offspring of bees also fashioned thus out of worms⁴, and from eggs which are quite fluid thou hast seen wings and bones and sinews of birds issue. Afterwards the aforesaid Phoenix, becoming fledged and a full-grown Phoenix, like the former one, soars up into the air such as it had died, shewing forth to men a most evident resurrection of the dead. The Phoenix indeed is a wondrous bird, yet it is irrational, nor ever sang praise to God; it flies abroad through the sky, but it knows not who is the Only-begotten Son of God. Has then a resurrection from the dead been given to this irrational creature which knows not its Maker, and to us who ascribe glory to God and keep His commandments, shall there no resurrection be granted?

9. But since the sign of the Phoenix is remote and uncommon, and men still disbelieve our resurrection, take again the proof of this from what thou seest every day. A hundred or two hundred years ago, we all, speakers and hearers, where were we? Know we not the groundwork of the substance of our bodies? Knowest thou not how from weak and shapeless and simple⁵ elements we are engendered, and out of what is simple and weak a living man is formed? and how that weak element being made flesh is changed into strong sinews, and bright eyes, and sensitive nose, and hearing ears, and speaking tongue, and beating heart, and busy hands, and swift feet, and into members of all kinds⁶? and how that once weak element becomes a shipwright, and a builder, and an architect, and a craftsman of various arts, and a soldier, and a ruler, and a lawgiver, and a king? Cannot God then, who has made us out of imperfect materials, raise us up when we have fallen into decay? He who thus flames a body out of what is vile, cannot He raise the fallen body again? And He who fashions that which is not, shall He not raise up that which is and is fallen?

10. Take further a manifest proof of the resurrection of the dead, witnessed month by month in the sky and its luminaries⁷. The body of the moon vanishes completely, so that no part of it is any more seen, yet it fills again, and is restored to its former state⁸; and for the perfect demonstration of the matter, the moon at certain revolutions of years suffering eclipse and becoming manifestly changed into blood, yet recovers its luminous body: God having provided this, that thou also, the man who art formed of blood, mightest not refuse credence to the resurrection of the dead, but mightest believe concerning thyself also what thou seest in respect of the moon. These therefore use thou as arguments against the Greeks; for with them who receive not what is written fight thou with unwritten weapons, by reasonings only and demonstrations; for these men know not who Moses is, nor Esaias, nor the Gospels, nor Paul.

11. Turn now to the Samaritans, who, receiving the Law only, allow not the Prophets. To them the text just now read from Ezekiel appears of no force, for, as I said, they admit no Prophets; whence then shall we persuade the Samaritans also? Let us go to the writings of the Law. Now God says to Moses, *I am the God of Abraham, and of Isaac, and of Jacob*⁹; this must mean of those who have being and subsistence. For if Abraham has

¹μονογενὲς ὕπαρχον, Clem. Rom. *ubi supra*. Cf. Origen, *contra Celsum*, iv. 98: *Apost. Const.* V. 7: “a bird single in its kind, which they say is without a mate, and the only one in the creation.” Pseudo-Lactant. v. 30.

“Hoc nemus hos lucos avis incolit unica, phœnix,

Unica, sed vivit morte refecta suâ”

²“By day, in the sight of all” (Clem. R.) The city was Heliopolis, according to Herodotus and the other ancient authors. But Milton, *Paradise Lost*, V. 272—

‘A phœnix gaz’d by all, as that *sole* bird,

When to enshrine his reliques in the Sun’s

Bright temple to Ægyptian Thebes he flies.’

Why does Milton despatch his bird to Thebes rather than Heliopolis?” (Lightfoot).

³Ovid, *Met.* xv. 405: “Fertque pius cunasque suas patriumque sepulcrum.” See the Commentaries on [Job xxix.](#)

¹⁸: *I shall die in my nest, and I shall multiply my days as the sand.* Margin R.V. Or, *the phoenix*.

⁴The mode of reproduction in bees was regarded by Aristotle as mysterious, having in it something supernatural (θεῖον): *De Generatione Animal.* III. 10. 1, 27. In the story of the phoenix Herodotus makes no mention of the “worm.”

⁵μονοειδής.

⁶For a similar argument, see Lactant. *De Resurr.* c xvii.

⁷Clem. Rom. *Epist. ad Cor.* xxiv: “Day and night shew unto us the resurrection. The night falleth asleep, and day ariseth; the day departeth, and night cometh on.”

⁸Tertull. *de Resurr. Carnis*, xii.: “Readorned also are the mirrors of the moon, which her monthly course had worn away.”...“The whole of this revolving order of things bears witness to the resurrection of the dead.”

⁹Exod. 3.6; Matt. 22.32: “*He is not the God of the dead, but of the living.*”

137

come to an end, and Isaac and Jacob, then He is the God of those who have no being. When did a king ever say, I am the king of soldiers, whom he had not? When did any display wealth which he possessed not? Therefore Abraham and Isaac and Jacob must subsist, that God may be the God of those who have being; for He said not, “I was their God,” but *I am*. And that there is a judgment, Abraham shews in saying to the Lord, *He who judgeth all the earth, shall He not execute judgment*¹?

12. But to this the foolish Samaritans object again, and say that the souls possibly of Abraham and Isaac and Jacob continue, but that their bodies cannot possibly rise again. Was it then possible that the rod of righteous Moses should become a serpent, and is it impossible that the bodies of the righteous should live and rise again? And was that done contrary to nature, and shall they not be restored according to nature? Again, the rod of Aaron, though cut off and dead, budded, *without the scent of waters*², and though under a roof, sprouted forth into blossoms as in the fields; and though set in dry places, yielded in one night the flowers and fruit of plants watered for many years. Did Aaron’s rod rise, as it were, from the dead, and shall not Aaron himself be raised? And did God work wonders in wood, to secure to him the high-priesthood, and will He not vouchsafe a resurrection to Aaron himself? A woman also was made salt contrary to nature; and flesh was turned into salt; and shall not flesh be restored to flesh? Was Lot’s wife made a pillar of salt, and shall not Abraham’s wife be raised again? By what power was Moses’ hand changed, which even within one hour became as snow, and was restored again? Certainly by God’s command. Was then His command of force then, and has it no force now?

13. And whence in the beginning came man into being at all, O ye Samaritans, most senseless of all men? Go to the first book of the Scripture, which even you receive; *And God formed man of the dust of the ground*³. Is dust transformed into flesh, and shall not flesh be again restored to flesh? You must be asked too, whence the heavens had their being, and earth, and seas? Whence sun, and moon, and stars? How from the waters were made the things which fly and swim? And how from earth all its living things? Were so many myriads brought from nothing into being, and shall we men, who bear God’s image, not be raised up? Truly this course is full of unbelief, and the unbelievers are much to be condemned; when Abraham addresses the Lord as *the Judge of all the earth*, and the learners of the Law disbelieve; when it is written that man is of the earth, and the readers disbelieve it⁴.

14. These questions, therefore, are for them, the unbelievers: but the words of the Prophets are for us who believe. But since some who have also used the Prophets believe not what is written, and allege against us that passage, *The ungodly shall not rise up in judgment*⁵, and, *For if man go down to the grave he shall come up no more*⁶, and, *The dead shall not praise Thee, O Lord*⁷,—for of what is well written, they have made ill use—it will be well in a cursory manner, and as far as is now possible, to meet them. For if it is said, that *the ungodly shall not rise up in judgment*, this shews that they shall rise, not in judgment, but in condemnation; for God needs not long scrutiny, but close on the resurrection of the ungodly follows also their punishment. And if it is said, *The dead shall not praise Thee, O Lord*, this shews, that since in this life only is the appointed time for repentance and pardon, for which they who enjoy it shall *praise the Lord*, it remains not after death for them who have died in sins to give

praise as the receivers of a blessing, but to bewail themselves; for praise belongs to them who give thanks, but to them who are under the scourge, lamentation. Therefore the just then offer praise; but they who have died in sins have no further season for confession⁸.

15. And respecting that passage, *If a man go down to the grave, he shall come up no more*, observe what follows, for it is written, *He shall come up no more, neither shall he return to his own house*. For since the whole world shall pass away, and every house shall be destroyed, how shall he return to his own house, there being henceforth a new and different earth? But they ought to have heard Job, saying, *For there is hope of a tree; for if it be cut down, it will sprout again, and the tender branch thereof will not cease. For though the root thereof wax old in the earth, and the stock thereof die in the rocky ground; yet from the scent of water it will bud, and bring forth a crop like a new plant. But man when he dies, is gone; and when mortal man falls, is he no more*⁹? As it were remonstrating and reproving (for thus ought we to

¹Gen. xviii. 25.

²Job xiv. 9.

³Gen. ii. 7.

⁴The anomalous construction ὅταν γέγραπταικαὶ ἀπιστώσιν may be explained by the consideration, that the uncertainty expressed in ὅταν attaches only to the latter Verb. See Winer's *Grammar of N.T. Greek*, P. III. sect. xlii. 5.

⁵Ps. i. 5: *The wicked shall not stand in the judgment* (R.V.).

⁶Job vii. 9.

⁷Ps. cxv. 17.

⁸As to the bearing of this passage on the doctrine of Purgatory and prayer for the dead see note on xxiii. 10.

⁹Job xiv. 7-10.

138

read the words *is no more* with an interrogation¹); he says since a tree falls and revives, shall not man, for whom all trees were made, himself revive? And that thou mayest not suppose that I am forcing the words, read what follows; for after saying by way of question, *When mortal man falls, is he no more?* he says, *For if a man die, he shall live again*²; and immediately he adds, *I will wait till I be made again*³; and again elsewhere, *Who shall raise up on the earth my skin, which endures these things*⁴. And Esaias the Prophet says, *The dead men shall rise again, and they that are in the tombs shall awake*⁵. And the Prophet Ezekiel now before us, says most plainly, *Behold I will open your graves, and bring you up out of your graves*⁶. And Daniel says, *Many of them that sleep in the dust of the earth shall arise, some to everlasting life, and some to everlasting shame*⁷.

16. And many Scriptures there are which testify of the Resurrection of the dead; for there are many other sayings on this matter. But now, by way of remembrance only, we will make a passing mention of the raising of Lazarus on the fourth day; and just allude, because of the shortness of the time, to the widow's son also who was raised, and merely for the sake of reminding you, let me mention the ruler of the synagogue's daughter, and the rending of the rocks, and how *there arose many bodies of the saints which slept*⁸, their graves having been opened. But specially be it remembered that *Christ has been raised from the dead*⁹. I speak but in passing of Elias, and the widow's son whom he raised; of Elisseus also, who raised the dead twice; once in his lifetime, and once after his death. For when alive he wrought the resurrection by means of his own soul¹⁰; but that not the souls only of the just might be honoured, but that it might be believed that in the bodies also of the just there lies a power, the corpse which was cast into the sepulchre of Elisseus, when it touched the dead body of the prophet, was

quicken, and the dead body of the prophet did the work of the soul, and that which was dead and buried gave life to the dead, and though it gave life, yet continued itself among the dead. Wherefore? Lest if Eliseus should rise again, the work should be ascribed to his soul alone; and to shew, that even though the soul is not present, a virtue resides in the body of the saints, because of the righteous soul which has for so many years dwelt in it, and used it as its minister¹¹. And let us not foolishly disbelieve, as though this thing had not happened: for if handkerchiefs and aprons, which are from without, touching the bodies of the diseased, raised up the sick, how much more should the very body of the Prophet raise the dead?

17. And with respect to these instances we might say much, rehearsing in detail the marvellous circumstances of each event: but as you have been already wearied both by the superposed fast of the Preparation¹², and by the watchings¹³, let what has been cursorily spoken concerning them suffice for a while; these words having been as it were sown thinly, that you, receiving the seed like richest ground, may in bearing fruit increase them. But be it remembered, that the Apostles also raised the dead; Peter raised Tabitha in Joppa, and Paul raised Eutychus in Troas; and thus did all the other Apostles, even though the wonders wrought by each have not all been written. Further, remember all the sayings in the first Epistle to the Corinthians, which Paul wrote against them who said, *How are the dead raised, and with*

¹There is no indication of a question in the Septuagint version of the passage, which means in the Hebrew, *and where is he?* (A.V. and R.V.): Vulg. *ubi, quæso, est?*

²[Job xiv. 14](#): *For if a man die, shall he live again?* (A.V. and R.V.). By omitting the interrogation here, and inserting it above in v. 10, Cyril exactly inverts the meaning.

³[Job 14.14](#): (A.V.) *All the days of my appointed time* (R.V. *of my warfare*) *will I wait, till my change* (R.V. *release*) *come*.

⁴[Job xix. 26](#): (R.V.) *and that he shall stand up at the last upon the earth: and after my skin hath been thus destroyed, &c.* Cyril, as usual, follows the Septuagint.

⁵[Is. xxvi. 19](#).

⁶[Ezek. xxxvii. 12](#).

⁷[Dan. xii. 2](#).

⁸[Matt. xxvii. 52](#).

⁹[1 Cor. xv. 20](#).

¹⁰[2 Kings iv. 34](#).

¹¹"The worship of relics, and the belief in them as remedies and a protection against evil, originated in the 4th century. They first (?) appear in writings, none of which are earlier than the year 370: but they prevailed rapidly when they had once taken root" (Scudamore, *Dict. Chr. Antiq.* "Relics," p. 1770). Bingham (*Ant.* xxiii. 4, § 7) quotes a law of Theodosius, "that no one should remove any dead body that was buried, from one place to another; that no one should sell or buy the relics of Martyrs: but if any one was minded to build over the grave where a martyr was buried, a church to be called a *martyrium*, in respect to him, he should have liberty to do it." The law wholly failed to suppress a superstition which was sanctioned by such men as Cyril, Basil, Chrysostom, Ambrose, and Augustine.

¹²ἐκ τῆς ὑπερθέσεως τῆς νηστείας τῆς παρασκευῆς, Ed. Bened. "The ecclesiastical term τῆς ὑπερθέσεως we have rendered, according to the interpretation received among the Latins, by the word 'superpositio.' The ancients meant by it a fast continued for two or three days without food. Moreover, since the great week was observed with severer fastings, there were many who passed either the whole week or four, three, or two days, namely the Preparation and the Holy Sabbath (Easter Eve), entirely fasting as is testified by S. Irenæus (Euseb. *Hist.* V. 24)

and others. The continuance of the fast throughout the Friday and Saturday was highly approved, as may be seen from the *Apostolical Constitutions*, V. 18." The passage referred to is as follows: "Do you therefore fast on the days of the Passover, beginning from the second day of the week until the Preparation and the Sabbath, six days, making use only of bread, and salt, and herbs, and water for your drink: but abstain on these days from wine and flesh, for they are days of lamentation and not of fasting. Do ye who are able fast throughout the Preparation and the Sabbath entirely, tasting nothing till the cockcrowing at night; but if any one is not able to combine them both, let the Sabbath at least be observed."

¹³The fast of the Great Sabbath was to be continued through the night, as prescribed in the *Apost. Const.* V. 19: "Continue until cock-crowing and break off your fast at dawn of the first day of the week, which is the Lord's day, keeping awake from evening until cock-crowing: and assembling together in the Church, watch and pray and beseech God, in your night-long vigil, reading the Law, the Prophets, and the Psalms, until the crowing of the cocks: and after baptizing your Catechumens, and reading the Gospel in fear and trembling, and speaking to the people the things pertaining to salvation, so cease from your mourning." A chief reason for the watching was that Christ was expected to return at the same hour in which He rose. On the meaning of "superposition" see Routh's note on the Synodical Epistle of Irenæus to Victor of Rome (*Rel. Sac.* ii. p. 45, ss.), and the passage of Dionysius of Alexandria there quoted.

139

*what manner of body do they come*¹? And how he says, *For if the dead rise not, then is not Christ raised*²; and how he called them *fools*³, who believed not; and remember the whole of his teaching there concerning the resurrection of the dead, and how he wrote to the Thessalonians, *But we would not have you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning them which are asleep, that ye sorrow not, even as the rest which have no hope*⁴, and all that follows: but chiefly that, *And the dead in Christ shall rise first*⁵.

18. But especially mark this, how very pointedly⁶ Paul says, *For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality*⁷. For this body shall be raised not remaining weak as now; but raised the very same body, though by putting on incorruption it shall be fashioned anew⁸,—as iron blending with fire becomes fire, or rather as He knows how, the Lord who raises us. This body therefore shall be raised, but it shall abide not such as it now is, but an eternal body; no longer needing for its life such nourishment as now, nor stairs for its ascent, for it shall be made *spiritual*, a marvellous thing, such as we cannot worthily speak of. *Then*, it is said, *shall the righteous shine forth as the sun*⁹, and the moon, *and as the brightness of the firmament*¹⁰. And God, fore-knowing men's unbelief, has given to little worms in the summer to dart beams of light from their body¹¹, that from what is seen, that which is looked for might be believed; for He who gives in part is able to give the whole also, and He who made the worm radiant with light, will much more illuminate a righteous man.

19. We shall be raised therefore, all with our bodies eternal, but not all with bodies alike: for if a man is righteous, he will receive a heavenly body, that he may be able worthily to hold converse with Angels; but if a man is a sinner, he shall receive an eternal body, fitted to endure the penalties of sins, that he may burn eternally in fire, nor ever be consumed¹². And righteously will God assign this portion to either company; for we do nothing without the body. We blaspheme with the mouth, and with the mouth we pray. With the body we commit fornication, and with the body we keep chastity. With the hand we rob, and by the hand we bestow alms; and the rest in like manner. Since then the body has been our minister in all things, it shall also share with us in the future the fruits of the past¹³.

20. Therefore, brethren, let us be careful of our bodies, nor misuse them as though not our own. Let us not say like the heretics, that this vesture of the body belongs not to us, but let us be careful of it as our own; for we must give account to the Lord of all things done through the body. Say not, none seeth me; think not, that there is no witness of the deed. Human witness oftentimes there is not; but He who fashioned us, an unerring *witness*, abides *faithful in heaven*¹⁴, and beholds what thou doest. And the stains of sin also remain in the body; for as when a wound has gone deep into the body, even if there has been a healing, the scar remains, so sin wounds soul and body, and the marks of its scars remain in all; and they are removed only from those who receive the washing of Baptism. The past wounds therefore of soul and body God heals by Baptism; against future ones let us one and all jointly guard ourselves, that we may keep this vestment of the body pure, and may not for practising fornication and sensual indulgence or any other sin for a short season, lose the salvation of heaven, but may inherit the eternal kingdom of God; of which may God, of His own grace, deem all of you worthy.

21. Thus much in proof of the Resurrection of the dead; and now, let me again recite to you the profession of the

faith, and do you with all diligence pronounce it while I speak¹⁵, and remember it.

22. The Faith which we rehearse contains in order the following, “AND IN ONE BAPTISM OF REPENTANCE FOR THE REMISSION OF SINS; AND IN ONE HOLY CATHOLIC CHURCH; AND IN THE RESURRECTION OF THE FLESH; AND IN ETERNAL LIFE.” Now of Baptism and repentance I have spoken in the earliest Lectures; and my present remarks concerning the resurrection of the dead have been made with reference to the Article “In the resurrection of the flesh.” Now then let me finish what still remains to be said for the Article, “In one Holy Catholic Church,” on which, though one might say many things, we will speak but briefly.

23. It is called Catholic then because it

¹[1 Cor. xv. 35.](#)

²[1 Cor. 15.16.](#)

³[1 Cor. 15.36.](#)

⁴[1 Thess. iv. 13.](#)

⁵[1 Thess. 4.16.](#)

⁶μονονουχὶ δακτυλοδεικτῶν.

⁷[1 Cor. xv. 53.](#)

⁸μεταποιεῖται. The meaning of this word as applied to the Eucharistic elements is fully discussed, and illustrated from its use by Cyril and other Fathers, by Dr. Pusey (*Real Presence*, p. 189).

⁹[Matt. xiii. 43.](#)

¹⁰[Dan. xii. 3.](#)

¹¹Cyril refers to the glow-worm (πυγολαμπίς, Aristot. *Hist. Animal.* V. 19, 14), or some other species of Lampyris (Arist. *de Partibus Animal.* I. 3. 3).

¹²Cf. Cat. iv. 31.

¹³τῶν γενομένων. With the reading γινομένων (Codd. Monn. Vind.), the meaning will be—“share with us in the future what shall happen to us then.” On the argument of this section compare the passages quoted on § 4, note 7.

¹⁴[Ps. lxxxix. 37.](#)

¹⁵Cat. V. 12, notes 7 and 4. Cf. Plat. Theaet. 204 C: ἐφ’ ἐκάστης λέξεως, “each time we speak.”

extends over all the world, from one end of the earth to the other; and because it teaches universally and completely one and all the doctrines which ought to come to men’s knowledge, concerning things both visible and invisible, heavenly and earthly¹; and because it brings into subjection to godliness the whole race of mankind, governors and governed, learned and unlearned; and because it universally treats and heals the whole class of

sins, which are committed by soul or body, and possesses in itself every form of virtue which is named, both in deeds and words, and in every kind of spiritual gifts.

24. And it is rightly named (Ecclesia) because it calls forth² and assembles together all men; according as the Lord says in Leviticus, *And make an assembly for all the congregation at the door of the tabernacle of witness*³. And it is to be noted, that the word *assemble*, is used for the first time in the Scriptures here, at the time when the Lord puts Aaron into the High-priesthood. And in Deuteronomy also the Lord says to Moses, *Assemble the people unto Me, and let them hear My words, that they may learn to fear Me*⁴. And he again mentions the name of the Church, when he says concerning the Tables, *And on them were written all the words which the Lord spake with you in the mount out of the midst of the fire in the day of the Assembly*⁵; as if he had said more plainly, in the day in which ye were called and gathered together by God. The Psalmist also says, *I will give thanks unto Thee, O Lord, in the great Congregation; I will praise Thee among much people*⁶.

25. Of old the Psalmist sang, *Bless ye God in the congregations, even the Lord, (ye that are) from the fountains of Israel*⁷. But after the Jews for the plots which they made against the Saviour were cast away from His grace, the Saviour built out of the Gentiles a second Holy Church, the Church of us Christians, concerning which he said to Peter, *And upon this rock I will build My Church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it*⁸. And David prophesying of both these, said plainly of the first which was rejected, *I have hated the Congregation of evil doers*⁹; but of the second which is built up he says in the same Psalm, *Lord, I have loved the beauty of Thine house*¹⁰; and immediately afterwards, *In the Congregations will I bless thee, O Lord*¹¹. For now that the one Church in Judæa is cast off, the Churches of Christ are increased over all the world; and of them it is said in the Psalms, *Sing unto the Lord a new song, His praise in the Congregation of Saints*¹². Agreeably to which the prophet also said to the Jews, *I have no pleasure in you, saith the Lord Almighty*¹³; and immediately afterwards, *For from the rising of the sun even unto the going down of the same, My name is glorified among the Gentiles*¹⁴. Concerning this Holy Catholic Church Paul writes to Timothy, *That thou mayest know how thou oughtest to behave thyself in the House of God, which is the Church of the Living God, the pillar and ground of the truth*¹⁵.

26. But since the word Ecclesia is applied to different things (as also it is written of the multitude in the theatre of the Ephesians, *And when he had thus spoken, he dismissed the Assembly*¹⁶), and since one might properly and truly say that there is a *Church of evil doers*, I mean the meetings of the heretics, the Marcionists and Manichees, and the rest, for this cause the Faith has securely delivered to thee now the Article, "And in one Holy Catholic Church;" that thou mayest avoid their wretched meetings, and ever abide with the Holy Church Catholic in which thou wast regenerated. And if ever thou art sojourning in cities, inquire not simply where the Lord's House is (for the other sects of the profane also attempt to call their own dens houses of the Lord), nor merely where the Church is, but where is the Catholic Church. For this is the peculiar name of this Holy Church, the mother of us all, which is the spouse of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Only-begotten Son of God (for it is written, *As Christ also loved the Church and gave Himself for it*¹⁷, and all the rest,) and is a figure and copy of *Jerusalem which is above, which is free, and the mother of us all*¹⁸; which before was barren, but now has many children.

27. For when the first Church was cast off, in the second, which is the Catholic Church, God *hath set*, as Paul says, *first Apostles, secondly Prophets, thirdly teachers, then miracles, then gifts of healings, helps, governments, divers kinds of tongues*¹⁹, and every sort of virtue, I mean wisdom and understanding, temperance and justice, mercy and loving-kindness, and patience unconquerable

¹Bishop Lightfoot (Ignatius, *ad Smyrnæos*, viii.) traces the original and later senses of the word "Catholic" very fully. "In its earliest usages, therefore, as a fluctuating epithet of ἐκκλησία, 'catholic' means 'universal,' as opposed to 'individual,' 'particular.' In its later sense, as a fixed attribute, it implies orthodoxy as opposed to heresy, conformity as opposed to dissent." Commenting on this passage of Cyril, the Bishop adds that "these two latter reasons, that it (the Church) is comprehensive in doctrine, and that it is universal in application, can only be regarded as secondary glosses."

²ἐκκαλεῖσθαι. Cf. [Heb. xii. 23](#).

³[Lev. viii. 3](#): ἐκκλησίασον.

⁴[Deut. iv. 10.](#)

⁵[Deut. 9.10:](#) ἐκκλησίας.

⁶[Ps. xxxv. 18;](#) [Heb. ii. 12.](#)

⁷[Ps. lxviii. 26:](#) ἐν ἐκκλησίαις.

⁸[Matt. xvi. 18.](#)

⁹[Ps. xxvi. 5.](#)

¹⁰[Ps. xxvi. 8:](#) Sept. ἐν πρῶτῳ . R.V. and A.V. "habitation."

¹¹[Psa. 26.12.](#)

¹²[Ps. cxlix. 1.](#)

¹³[Mal. i. 10.](#)

¹⁴[Mal. 1.11.](#)

¹⁵¹[Tim. iii. 15.](#)

¹⁶[Acts xix. 14.](#)

¹⁷[Eph. v. 25.](#)

¹⁸[Gal. iv. 26.](#)

¹⁹¹[Cor. xii. 28.](#)

141

in persecutions. She, *by the armour of righteousness on the right hand and on the left, by honour and dishonour*¹, in former days amid persecutions and tribulations crowned the holy martyrs with the varied and blooming chaplets of patience, and now in times of peace by God's grace receives her due honours from *kings and those who are in high place*², and from every sort and kindred of men. And while the kings of particular nations have bounds set to their authority, the Holy Church Catholic alone extends her power without limit over the whole world; *for God*, as it is written, *hath made her border peace*³. But I should need many more hours for my discourse, if I wished to speak of all things which concern her.

28. In this Holy Catholic Church receiving instruction and behaving ourselves virtuously, we shall attain the kingdom of heaven, and inherit ETERNAL LIFE; for which also we endure all toils, that we may be made partakers thereof from the Lord. For ours is no trifling aim, but our endeavour is for eternal life. Wherefore in the profession of the Faith, after the words, "AND IN THE RESURRECTION OF THE FLESH," that is, of the dead (of which we have discoursed), we are taught to believe also "IN THE LIFE ETERNAL," for which as Christians we are striving.

29. The real and true life then is the Father, who through the Son in the Holy Spirit pours forth as from a fountain His heavenly gifts to all; and through His love to man, the blessings of the life eternal are promised without fail to us men also. We must not disbelieve the possibility of this, but having an eye not to our own weakness but to His power, we must believe; *for with God all things are possible*. And that this is possible, and that we may look for

eternal life, Daniel declares, *And of the many righteous shall they shine as the stars for ever and ever*⁴. And Paul says, *And so shall we be ever with the Lord*⁶: for the *being for ever with the Lord* implies the life eternal. But most plainly of all the Saviour Himself says in the Gospel, *And these shall go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into life eterna*⁶.

30. And many are the proofs concerning the life eternal. And when we desire to gain this eternal life, the sacred Scriptures suggest to us the ways of gaining it; of which, because of the length of our discourse, the texts we now set before you shall be but few, the rest being left to the search of the diligent. They declare at one time that it is by faith; for it is written, *He that believeth on the Son hath eternal life*⁷, and what follows; and again He says Himself, *Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that heareth My word, and believeth Him that sent Me, hath eternal life*⁸, and the rest. At another time, it is by the preaching of the Gospel; for He says, that *He that reapeth receiveth wages, and gathereth fruit unto life eterna*⁹. At another time, by martyrdom and confession in Christ's name; for He says, *And he that hateth his life in this world, shall keep it unto life eterna*¹⁰. And again, by preferring Christ to riches or kindred; *And every one that hath forsaken brethren, or sisters*¹¹, and the rest, *shall inherit eternal life*. Moreover it is by keeping the commandments, *Thou shalt not commit adultery, Thou shalt not kill*¹², and the rest which follow; as He answered to him that came to Him, and said, *Good Master, what shall I do that I may have eternal life*¹³? But further, it is by departing from evil works, and henceforth serving God; for Paul says, *But now being made free from sin, and become servants to God, ye have your fruit unto sanctification, and the end eternal life*¹⁴.

31. And the ways of finding eternal life are many, though I have passed over them by reason of their number. For the Lord in His loving-kindness has opened, not one or two only, but many doors, by which to enter into the life eternal, that, as far as lay in Him, all might enjoy it without hindrance. Thus much have we for the present spoken within compass concerning THE LIFE ETERNAL, which is the last doctrine of those professed in the Faith, and its termination; which life may we all, both teachers and hearers, by God's grace enjoy!

32. And now, brethren beloved, the word of instruction exhorts you all, to prepare your souls for the reception of the heavenly gifts. As regards the Holy and Apostolic Faith delivered to you to profess, we have spoken through the grace of the Lord as many Lectures, as was possible, in these past days of Lent; not that this is all we ought to have said, for many are the points omitted; and these perchance are thought out better by more excellent teachers. But now the holy day of the Passover is at hand, and ye, beloved¹⁵ in Christ, are to be enlightened by the Laver of regeneration. Ye shall therefore again be taught what is requi

¹²Cor. vi. 7, 8.

²¹Tim. ii. 2.

³Ps. cxlvii. 14.

⁴Dan. xii. 3, Sept.

⁵¹Thess. iv. 17.

⁶Matt. xxv. 46.

⁷John iii. 36.

⁸John 3.24.

⁹John 4.36.

¹⁰John 12.25.

¹¹[Matt. xix. 29.](#)

¹²[Matt. 19.16-18.](#)

¹³[Mark. x. 17.](#)

¹⁴[Rom. vi. 22.](#)

¹⁵τῆς ὑμετέρας ἐν Χριστῷ ἀγάπης. Cf. Cat. xvii. 1, note 1. Athan. *Epist. ad Epict.* § 2: παρὰ τῇ σῇ θεοσεβείᾳ. *ad Serap.* iv. 1: παρὰ τῆς σῆς εὐλαβείας.

142

site, if God so will; with how great devotion and order you must enter in when summoned, for what purpose each of the holy mysteries of Baptism is performed, and with what reverence and order you must go from Baptism to the Holy Altar of God, and enjoy its spiritual and heavenly mysteries; that your souls being previously enlightened by the word of doctrine, ye may discover in each particular the greatness of the gifts bestowed on you by God.

33. And after Easter's Holy Day of salvation, ye shall come on each successive day, beginning from the second day of the week, after the assembly into the Holy Place of the Resurrection¹, and there, if God permit, ye shall hear other Lectures; in which ye shall again be taught the reasons of every thing which has been done, and shall receive the proofs thereof from the Old and New Testaments,—first, of the things done just before Baptism,—next, how ye were cleansed from your sins by the Lord, *by the washing of water with the word*²,—and how like Priests ye have become partakers of the Name of Christ,—and how the Seal of the fellowship of the Holy Ghost was given to you,—and concerning the mysteries at the Altar of the New Testament, which have taken their beginning from this place, both what the Divine Scriptures have delivered to us, and what is the power of these mysteries, and how ye must approach them, and when and how receive them;—and at the end of all, how for the time to come ye must behave yourselves worthily of this grace both in words and deeds, that you may all be enabled to enjoy the life everlasting. And these things shall be spoken, if it be God's pleasure.

34. *Finally, my brethren, rejoice in the Lord alway; again I will say, Rejoice: for your redemption hath drawn nigh*³, and the heavenly host of the Angels is waiting for your salvation. And there is now *the voice of one crying in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the Lord*⁴; and the Prophet cries, *Ho, ye that thirst, come ye to the water*⁵; and immediately afterwards, *Hearken unto me, and ye shall eat that which is good, and your soul shall delight itself in good things*⁶. And within a little while ye shall hear that excellent lesson which says, *Shine, shine, O thou new Jerusalem; for thy light is come*⁷. Of this Jerusalem the prophet hath said, *And afterwards thou shalt be called the city of righteousness, Zion, the faithful mother of cities*⁸; *because of the law which went forth out of Zion, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem*⁹, which word has from hence been showered forth on the whole world. To her the Prophet also says concerning you, *Lift up thine eyes round about, and behold thy children gathered together*¹⁰; and she answers, saying, *Who are these that fly as a cloud, and as doves with their young ones to me*¹¹? (clouds because of their spiritual nature, and doves, from their purity). And again, she says, *Who knoweth such things? or who hath seen it thus? did ever a land bring forth in one day? or was ever a nation born all at once? for as soon as Zion travailed, she brought forth her children*¹². And all things shall be filled with joy unspeakable because of the Lord who said, *Behold, I create Jerusalem a rejoicing, and her people a joy*¹³.

35. And may these words be spoken now again over you also, *Sing, O heavens, and be joyful, O earth; and then; for the Lord hath had mercy on His people, and comforted the lowly of His people*¹⁴. And this shall come to pass through the loving-kindness of God, who says to you, *Behold, I will blot out as a cloud thy transgressions, and as a thick cloud thy sins*¹⁵. But ye who have been counted worthy of the name of Faithful (of whom it is written, *Upon My servants shall be called a new name which shall be blessed on the earth*¹⁶), ye shall say with gladness, *Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ*¹⁷: *in whom we have our redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of our sins, according to the riches of His grace, wherein He abounded towards us*¹⁸, and what follows; and again, *But God being rich in mercy, for His great love wherewith He loved us, when we were dead through our trespasses, quickened us together with Christ*¹⁹, and the rest. And again in like manner praise ye the Lord of all good things, saying, *But when the kindness of God our Saviour, and His love towards man appeared, not by works of*

righteousness which we had done, but according to His mercy He saved us, through the washing of regeneration, and the renewing of the Holy Ghost, which He shed on us abundantly through Jesus Christ our Saviour, that being

¹The place meant is not the Church of the Resurrection in which the Service had been held, but the Anastasis or actual cave of the Resurrection, which Constantine had so enlarged by additional works that a discourse to the people could be held there: for Jerome (*Epist.* 61) relates that Epiphanius had preached in that place in front of the Lord's sepulchre to clergy and people in the hearing of John the Bishop (Ben. Ed.).

²[Eph. v. 26.](#)

³[Phil. 3.1; 4.4; Luke 21.28.](#)

⁴[Is. xl. 3.](#)

⁵[Isa. 55.1.](#)

⁶[Isa. 55.2.](#)

⁷[Is. lx. 1.](#)

⁸[Isa. 1.26.](#)

⁹[Isa. 2.3.](#)

¹⁰[Isa. 49.18.](#)

¹¹[Isa. 60.8.](#)

¹²[Isa. 66.8.](#)

¹³[Isa. 65.18.](#)

¹⁴[Isa. 49.13.](#)

¹⁵[Is. xlv. 22.](#)

¹⁶[Isa. 65.15.](#)

¹⁷[Eph. i. 3.](#)

¹⁸[Eph. 1.7.](#)

¹⁹[Eph. 2.4.](#)

justified by His grace, we might be made heirs, according to hope, of eternal life¹. And may God Himself the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, give unto you a spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Himself, the eyes of your understanding being enlightened², and may He ever keep you in good works, and words, and thoughts; to Whom be glory, honour, and power, through our Lord Jesus Christ, with the Holy Ghost, now and ever, and unto all the endless ages of eternity. Amen³.

¹[Tit. iii. 4.](#)

²[Eph. i. 17, 18.](#)

³“At the end of this Lecture in the older of the Munich mss. there is the following addition: Many other Lectures were delivered year by year, both before Baptism and after the neophytes had been baptized. But these alone were taken down when spoken and written by some of the earnest students in the year 352 of the advent of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. And in these you will find partly discussions of all the necessary doctrines of the Faith which ought to be known to men, and answers to the Greeks, and to those of the Circumcision, and to the Heresies, and the moral precepts of Christians of all kinds, by the grace of God. The year 352 according to the computation of the Greeks is the year 360 of the Christian era” (Rupp).

The date at which the Lectures were delivered cannot possibly be so late as is here stated. See the section of the Introduction on the “Date.”

144

FIVE CATECHETICAL LECTURES

OF

THE SAME AUTHOR,

TO THE NEWLY BAPTIZED¹.

Lecture XIX.

First Lecture on the Mysteries.

WITH A LESSON FROM THE 1 Peter, BEGINNING AT *Be sober, be vigilant*, TO THE END OF THE EPISTLE.

1. I HAVE long been wishing, O true-born and dearly beloved children of the Church, to discourse to you concerning these spiritual and heavenly Mysteries; but since I well knew that seeing is far more persuasive than hearing, I waited for the present season; that finding you more open to the influence of my words from your present experience, I might lead you by the hand into the brighter and more fragrant meadow of the Paradise before us; especially as ye have been made fit to receive the more sacred Mysteries, after having been found worthy of divine and life-giving Baptism². Since therefore it remains to set before you a table of the more perfect instructions, let us now teach you these things exactly, that ye may know the effect³ wrought upon you on that evening of your baptism.

2. First ye entered into the vestibule⁴ of the Baptistery, and there facing towards the West ye listened to the command to stretch forth your hand, and as in the presence of Satan ye renounced him. Now ye must know that this figure is found in ancient history. For when Pharaoh, that most bitter and cruel tyrant, was oppressing the free

and high-born people of the Hebrews, God sent Moses to bring them out of the evil bondage of the Egyptians. Then the door posts were anointed with the blood of a lamb, that the destroyer might flee from the houses which had the sign of the blood; and the Hebrew people was marvellously delivered. The enemy, however, after their rescue, *pursued after them*⁵, and saw the sea wondrously parted for them; nevertheless he went on, following close in their footsteps, and was all at once overwhelmed and engulfed in the Red Sea.

3. Now turn from the old to the new, from the figure to the reality. There we have Moses sent from God to Egypt; here, Christ, sent forth from His Father into the world: there, that Moses might lead forth an afflicted people out of Egypt; here, that Christ might rescue those who are oppressed in the world under sin: there, the blood of a lamb was the spell against⁶ the destroyer; here, the blood of the Lamb without blemish Jesus Christ is made the charm to scare⁷ evil spirits: there, the tyrant

¹This general title of the five following Lectures is omitted in many MSS. "In Cod. Ottob. at the end of the special title of this first Mystagogic Lecture, after the words "to the end of the Epistle," there follows the statement "Of the same author Cyril, and of John the Bishop" (Bened. Ed.). See Index, *Authenticity*.

²This Lecture was delivered on the Monday after Easter in the Holy Sepulchre: see Cat. xviii. 33.

³τὴν ἔμφασιν τὴν....γεγεννημένην, is found in all the MSS. "Nevertheless it would seem that we ought to read τῶν....γεγεννημένων, which Grodecq either read or substituted" (Ben. Ed.). With the proposed reading the meaning would be—"the significance of the things done to you," which agrees better with the meaning of ἔμφασις.

⁴τὸν προαύλιον, called below in § 11 "the outer chamber." Cf. Procat. § 1, note 3. It appears from Tertullian, *De Corona*, § 3, that the renunciation was made first in the Church, and afterwards in the Baptistry: "When we are going to enter the water, at that moment as well as just before in the Church under the hand of the President, we solemnly profess that we disown the devil, and his pomp, and his angels."

⁵Ex. xiv. 9, 23.

⁶ἀποτρόπαιον

⁷φυγαδευτήριον, the word commonly used in the Septuagint for "a city of refuge." But the Verb φυγαδεύω is Transitive in [2 Macc. ix. 4](#), as well as in Xenophon and Demosthenes. The application of the blood of Christ in Baptism is represented by marking the sign of the Cross on the forehead. Compare the lines of Prudentius quoted by the Benedictine Editor:

"Passio quæ nostram defendit sanguine frontem,

Corporeamque domum signato collinit ore."

was pursuing that ancient people even to the sea; and here the daring and shameless spirit, the author of evil, was following thee even to the very streams of salvation. The tyrant of old was drowned in the sea; and this present one disappears in the water of salvation.

4. But nevertheless thou art bidden to say, with arm outstretched towards him as though he were present, "I renounce thee, Satan." I wish also to say wherefore ye stand facing to the West; for it is necessary. Since the West is the region of sensible darkness, and he being darkness has his dominion also in darkness, therefore, looking with a symbolical meaning towards the West, ye renounce that dark and gloomy potentate. What then did each of you stand up and say? "I renounce thee, Satan,"—thou wicked and most cruel tyrant! meaning, "I fear thy might no longer; for that Christ hath overthrown, having partaken with me of flesh and blood, that through these He *might by death destroy death*¹, that I might not be made *subject to bondage* for ever." "I renounce thee,"—thou crafty and most subtle serpent. "I renounce thee,"—plotter as thou art, who under the guise of friendship didst contrive all disobedience, and work apostasy in our first parents. "I renounce thee, Satan,"—the artificer and

abettor of all wickedness.

5. Then in a second sentence thou art taught to say, “and all thy works.” Now the works of Satan are all sin, which also thou must renounce;—just as one who has escaped a tyrant has surely escaped his weapons also. All sin therefore, of every kind, is included in the works of the devil. Only know this; that all that thou sayest, especially at that most thrilling hour, is written in God’s books; when therefore thou doest any thing contrary to these promises, thou shalt be judged as a *transgressor*². Thou renouncest therefore the works of Satan; I mean, all deeds and thoughts which are contrary to reason.

6. Then thou sayest, “And all his pomp³.” Now the pomp of the devil is the madness of theatres⁴, and horse-races, and hunting, and all such vanity: from which that holy man praying to be delivered says unto God, *Turn away mine eyes from beholding vanity*⁵. Be not interested in the madness of the theatre, where thou wilt behold the wanton gestures of the players⁶, carried on with mockeries and all unseemliness, and the frantic dancing of effeminate men⁷;—nor in the madness of them who in hunts⁸ expose themselves to wild beasts, that they may pamper their miserable appetite; who, to serve their belly with meats, become themselves in reality meat for the belly of untamed beasts; and to speak justly, for the sake of their own god, their belly, they cast away their life headlong in single combats⁹. Shun also horse-races, that frantic and soul-subverting spectacle¹⁰. For all these are the pomp of the devil.

7. Moreover, the things which are hung up at idol festivals¹¹, either meat or bread, or other such things polluted by the invocation of the unclean spirits, are reckoned in the pomp of the devil. For as the Bread and Wine of the Eucharist

¹Heb. ii. 14, 15.

²Gal. ii. 18.

³Herod. II. 58: “The Egyptians were the first to introduce solemn assemblies (πανηγύρις) and processions (πομπάς).” At Rome the term “pompa” was applied especially to the procession with which the Ludi Circenses were opened and also to any grand ceremony or pageant.

⁴Θεατρομανία. Cf. Tertull. *Apologet.* 38; “We renounce all your spectacles....Among us nothing is ever said, or seen, or heard, which has anything in common with the madness of the Circus, the immodesty of the theatre, the atrocities of the arena, the useless exercises of the wrestling-ground.” He calls the theatre “that citadel of all impurities,” *De Spectaculis*, c. 10, “immodesty’s peculiar abode,” c. 17, and gives a vivid description of the rage and fury of the Circus in c. 16.

⁵Ps. cxix. 37.

⁶μίμων, the name either of a species of low comedy, “consisting more of gestures and mimicry than of spoken dialogue,” or of the persons who acted in them. Cyril’s description of the coarse and indecent character of the mimes is more than justified by the impartial testimony of Ovid, *Trist.* ii. 497:

“Quid si scripsissem mimos obscœna jocantes,

Qui semper vetiti crimen amoris habent;

In quibus assidue cultus procedit adulter,

Verbaque dat stulto callida nupta viro.

Nubilis hos virgo, matronaque, virque, puerque

Spectat, et e magna parte Senatus adest.

Nec satis incestis temerari vocibus aures;

Assuescunt oculi multa pudenda pati.”

A theatre is mentioned as one of the buildings erected by Hadrian in his new City Aelia Capitolina built on the site of Jerusalem; and that theatrical performances were continued in the time of Cyril we know from the accusation that in a time of famine he had sold one of the Church vestments, which was afterwards used upon the stage.

⁷Lactantius, *Epitome*, § 63: “Histrionici etiam impudici gestus, quibus infames fœminas imitantur, libidines, quæ saltando exprimunt, docent.”

⁸κυνηγεσίαις, the so-called “venationes” of the Circus in which the “bestiarii” fought with wild beasts.

⁹The “bestiarii” were feasted in public on the day before their encounter with the beasts. See Tertull. *Apologet.* § 42: “I do not recline in public at the feast of Bacchus, after the manner of the beast-fighters at their last banquet.” Ib. § 9: “Those also who dine on the flesh of wild beasts from the arena, who have keen appetites for bear and stag.” These latter, however, were chiefly the poor, to whom flesh was a rarity: Apuleius *Metam.* iv. 14, quoted by Oehler.

¹⁰ψυχᾶς ἐκτραχήλιζον, an allusion to the risk of a broken neck in the chariot-race. Tertull. *de Spectaculis*, § 9: “Equestrianism was formerly practised in a simple way on horseback, and certainly its ordinary use was innocent: but when it was dragged into the games, it passed from a gift of God into the service of demons.” The presiding deity of the chariot-race was Poseidon (Hom. *Il.* xxiii, 307; Pind. *Ol.* i. 63; *Pyth.* vi. 50; Soph. *Œdip.* Col. 712), and both this and the other shows of the Circus, and of the theatre, were connected with the worship of the gods of Greece and Rome, and therefore forbidden as idolatrous: “What high religious rites, what sacrifices precede, intervene, and follow, how many guilds, how many priesthoods, how many services are set astir” (Tert. *de Spect.* § 7).

¹¹πανηγύρεσι. The Panegyris was strictly a religious festival, but was commonly accompanied by a great fair or market, in which were sold not only such things as the worshippers might need for their offerings, e.g. frankincense, but also the flesh of the animals which had been sacrificed. Cf. *Dictionary of Greek and Rom. Antiq.* “Panegyris.” Tertull. *Apolog.* § 42: “We do not go to your spectacles: yet the articles that are sold there, if I need them, I shall obtain more readily at their proper places. We certainly buy no frankincense.”

146

before the invocation of the Holy and Adorable Trinity were simple bread and wine, while after the invocation the Bread becomes the Body of Christ, and the Wine the Blood of Christ¹, so in like manner such meats belonging to the pomp of Satan, though in their own nature simple, become profane by the invocation of the evil spirit.

8. After this thou sayest, “and all thy service².” Now the service of the devil is prayer in idol temples; things done in honour of lifeless idols; the lighting of lamps³, or burning of incense by fountains or rivers⁴, as some persons cheated by dreams or by evil spirits do [resort to this⁵], thinking to find a cure even for their bodily ailments. Go not after such things. The watching of birds, divination, omens, or amulets, or charms written on leaves, sorceries, or other evil arts⁶, and all such things, are services of the devil; therefore shun them. For if after renouncing Satan and associating thyself with Christ⁷, thou fall under their influence, thou shalt find⁸ the tyrant more bitter; perchance, because he treated thee of old as his own, and relieved thee from his hard bondage, but has now been greatly exasperated by thee; so thou wilt be bereaved of Christ, and have experience of the other. Hast thou not heard the old history which tells us of Lot and his daughters? Was not he himself saved with his daughters, when he had gained the mountain, while his wife became a pillar of salt, set up as a monument for ever, in remembrance of her depraved will and her turning back. Take heed therefore to thyself, and turn not again to *what is behind*⁹, having put thine hand to the plough, and then turning back to the salt savour of this life’s doings; but escape to the mountain, to Jesus Christ, that *stone hewn without hands*¹⁰, which has filled the world.

9. When therefore thou renouncest Satan, utterly breaking all thy covenant with him, that ancient *league with hell*¹¹, there is opened to thee the paradise of God, which He planted towards the East, whence for his transgression our first father was banished; and a symbol of this was thy turning from West to East, the place of

light¹². Then thou wert told to say, "I believe in the Father, and in the Son, and in the Holy Ghost, and in one Baptism of repentance¹³." Of which things we spoke to thee at length in the former Lectures, as God's grace allowed us.

10. Guarded therefore by these discourses, *be sober. For our adversary the devil*, as was just now read, *as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour*¹⁴. But though in former times death was mighty and devoured, at the holy Laver of regeneration God has *wiped away every tear from off all faces*¹⁵. For thou shalt no more mourn, now that thou hast put off the old man; but thou shalt keep holy-day¹⁶, *clothed in the garment of salvation*¹⁷, even Jesus Christ.

11. And these things were done in the outer chamber. But if God will, when in the succeeding lectures on the Mysteries we have entered into the Holy of Holies¹⁸, we shall there know the symbolical meaning of the things which are there performed. Now to God the Father, with the Son and the Holy Ghost, be glory, and power, and majesty, forever and ever. Amen.

¹Compare St. Paul's argument against meats offered to idols, [1 Cor. x. 14-21](#): and on Cyril's Eucharistic doctrine, see notes on Cat. xxii.

²The form of renunciation before Baptism is given in the *Apostolic Constitutions*, VII. 41: "I renounce Satan, and his works, and his pomps, and his services, and his angels, and his inventions, and all things that are under him." Cf. Tertull. *De Spectaculis*, § 4: "When on entering the water, we make profession of the Christian faith in the words of its rule, we bear public testimony that we have renounced the devil, his pomp, and his angels."

³Herod. ii. 62: "At Sais, when the assembly takes place for the sacrifices (to Minerva, or Neith), there is one night on which the inhabitants all burn a multitude of lights in the open air round their houses....These burn the whole night, and give to the festival the name of the Feast of Lamps (Λυχνοκαΐη)."

⁴Fountains and rivers had each its own deity or nymph, to whom sacrifices were offered, and incense burned.

⁵ἐς τοῦτο διέβησαν. These words are omitted in many MSS., and regarded by the Benedictine Editor as a spurious addition made to complete the construction. The words ἡ τοιαῦτα at the end of the sentence are better omitted, as in several good MSS.

⁶Cat. iv. 37; *Apost. Const.* vi.: "Be not a diviner, for that leads to idolatry....Thou shalt not use enchantments or purgations for thy child. Thou shalt not be a soothsayer nor a diviner by great or little birds. Nor shalt thou learn wicked arts; for all these things has the Law forbidden." [Deut. xviii. 10, 11](#).

⁷*Apost. Const.* vii. 41: "And after his renunciation let him in his association (συντασσόμενος) say, I associate myself with Christ."

⁸πειραθήση (Cod. Mon. 1) is a better reading than πειρασθήση. Cf. Plat. *Laches*, 188 E: τῶν ἔργων ἐπειράθην.

⁹[Phil. iii. 13](#). On the pillar of salt, see *Wisd.* x. 7: "Of whose wickedness even to this day the waste land that smoketh is a testimony,...and a standing pillar of salt is a monument of an unbelieving soul." Joseph. *Ant.* I. xi. 4: "Moreover I have seen it, for it remains even unto this day." Bp. Lightfoot, *Clem. Rom. Ep. ad Cor.* xi. remarks that the region abounds in pillars of salt, and "Mediæval and even modern travellers have delighted to identify one or other of these with Lot's wife."

¹⁰[Dan. ii. 35, 45](#).

¹¹[Is. xxviii. 15](#).

¹²Cf. S. Ambros. *De Mysteriis*, c. ii. 7: "Ad orientem converteris; qui enim renunciat diabolo ad Christum

convertitur:” “Where he plainly intimates....that turning to the East was a symbol of their aversion from Satan and conversion unto Christ, that is, from darkness to light, from serving idols, to serve Him, who is the Sun of Righteousness and Fountain of Light” (Bingh. *Ant.* xi. vii. 7).

¹³Cf. Didaché, vii. 1; Justin M. *Apolog.* I. c. 61 A; Swainson, *Creeds*, c. iii. on the short Baptismal Professions. “The writings of S. Cyprian distinctly tell us, that in his day the form of interrogation at Baptism was fixed and definite. He speaks of the “*usitata et legitima verba interrogationis*,”—and we know as distinctly that the interrogation included the words, “Dost thou believe in God the Father, in His Son Christ, in the Holy Spirit? Dost thou believe in remission of sins and eternal life through the Church?”

¹⁴[1 Pet. v. 9.](#)

¹⁵[Is. xxv. 8; Rev. vii. 17.](#)

¹⁶[πανηγυρίσεις](#)

¹⁷[Is. lxi. 10.](#)

¹⁸These words seem to imply that the Lectures on the Eucharist were to be delivered in the Holy Sepulchre, though the Mysteries themselves may be called metaphorically “the Holy of Holies.”

147

Lecture XX.

(On the Mysteries. II.)

Of Baptism.

[ROMANS VI. 3-14](#)

Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ, were baptized into His death? &c.....for ye are not under the Law, but under grace.

1. THESE daily introductions into the Mysteries¹, and new instructions, which are the announcements of new truths, are profitable to us; and most of all to you, who have been renewed from an old state to a new. Therefore, I shall necessarily lay before you the sequel of yesterday’s Lecture, that ye may learn of what those things, which were done by you in the inner chamber², were symbolical.

2. As soon, then, as ye entered, ye put off your tunic; and this was an image of *putting off the old man with his deeds*³. Having stripped yourselves, ye were naked; in this also imitating Christ, who was stripped naked on the Cross, and by His nakedness *put off from Himself the principalities and powers, and openly triumphed over them on the tree*⁴. For since the adverse powers made their lair in your members, ye may no longer wear that old garment; I do not at all mean this visible one, but the *old man, which waxeth corrupt in the lusts of deceit*⁵. May the soul which has once put him off, never again put him on, but say with the Spouse of Christ in the Song of Songs, *I have put off my garment, how shall I put it on*⁶? O wondrous thing! ye were naked in the sight of all, and were not ashamed⁷; for truly ye bore the likeness of the first-formed Adam, who was naked in the garden, and was not ashamed.

3. Then, when ye were stripped, ye were anointed with exorcised oil⁸, from the very hairs of your head to your feet, and were made partakers of the good olive-tree, Jesus Christ. For ye were cut off from the wild olive-tree⁹, and grafted into the good one, and were made to share the fatness of the true olive-tree. The exorcised oil

therefore was a symbol of the participation of the fatness of Christ, being a charm to drive away every trace of hostile influence. For as the breathing of the saints, and the invocation of the Name of God, like fiercest flame, scorch and drive out evil spirits¹⁰, so also this exorcised oil receives such virtue by the invocation of God and by prayer, as not only to burn and cleanse away the traces of sins, but also to chase away all the invisible powers of the evil one.

4. After these things, ye were led to the holy pool¹¹ of Divine Baptism, as Christ was carried from the Cross to the Sepulchre which is before our eyes. And each of you was asked, whether he believed in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost, and ye made that saving confession,

¹μυσταγωγίαι.

²The renunciation and the profession of faith were made in the outer chamber or vestibule of the Baptistry.

³[Col. iii. 9.](#)

⁴[Col. 2.15.](#) Cyril's use of this passage agrees best with the interpretation that Christ, having been clothed with the likeness of sinful flesh during His life on earth, submitted therein to the assaults of the powers of evil, but on the Cross threw off from Himself both it and them.

⁵[Eph. iv. 22.](#)

⁶[Song of Sol. 5.3.](#)

⁷See *Dict. Christ. Antiq.* "Baptism," § 48: *The Unclothing of the Catechumens*: Bingham. *Ant.* XI. xi. 1: All "persons were baptized naked, either in imitation of Adam in Paradise, or our Saviour upon the Cross, or to signify their putting off the body of sin, and the old man with his deeds."

⁸Apost. Const. vii. 22: "But thou shalt beforehand anoint the person with holy oil (ἐλαίῳ), and afterward baptize him with water, and in the conclusion shalt seal him with the ointment (μύρον), that the anointing (χρῖσμα) may be a participation of the Holy Spirit, and the water a symbol of the death, and the ointment the seal of the Covenants. But if there be neither oil nor ointment, water suffices both for anointing, and for a seal, and for a confession of Him who died, or indeed is dying with us." The previous anointing "with oil sanctified by prayer" is mentioned in the *Clementine Recognitions*, III. c. 67, and in the Pseudo-Justin, *Quæstiones ad Orthodoxos*, Qu. 137. It was not however universal, and seems to have been unknown in Africa, not being mentioned by Clement of Alexandria (*Pæd.* II. c. viii. *On the use of ointments*), nor Tertullian, nor Augustine.

⁹On the significance of the wild olive-tree, see Irenæus, V. 10.

¹⁰See Index, "Exorcism."

¹¹κολυμβήθραν. The pool or piscina was deep enough for total immersion, and large enough for many to be baptized at once. Cf. Bingham. *Ant.* VIII. vii. 2; XI. xi. 2, 3. For engravings of the very ancient Baptisteries at Aquileia and Ravenna, shewing the form of the font or piscina, see *Dict. Christian Ant.* "Baptistry."

and descended three times into the water, and ascended again; here also hinting by a symbol at the three days burial of Christ¹. For as our Saviour passed three days and three nights in the heart of the earth, so you also in your first ascent out of the water, represented the first day of Christ in the earth, and by your descent, the night; for as he who is in the night, no longer sees, but he who is in the day, remains in the light, so in the descent, as in the night, ye saw nothing, but in ascending again ye were as in the day. And at the self-same moment ye were both dying and being born; and that Water of salvation was at once your grave and your mother. And what Solomon spoke of others will suit you also; for he said, in that case, *There is a time to bear and a time to die*²; but to you, in the reverse order, there was a time to die and a time to be born; and one and the same time effected both of these,

and your birth went hand in hand with your death.

5. O strange and inconceivable thing! we did not really die, we were not really buried, we were not really crucified and raised again; but our imitation was in a figure, and our salvation in reality. Christ was actually crucified, and actually buried, and truly rose again; and all these things He has freely bestowed upon us, that we, sharing His sufferings by imitation, might gain salvation in reality. O surpassing loving-kindness! Christ received nails in His undefiled hands and feet, and suffered anguish; while on me without pain or toil by the fellowship of His suffering He freely bestows salvation.

6. Let no one then suppose that Baptism is merely the grace of remission of sins, or further, that of adoption; as John's was a baptism³ conferring only remission of sins: whereas we know full well, that as it purges our sins, and ministers⁴ to us the gift of the Holy Ghost, so also it is the counterpart⁵ of the sufferings of Christ. For this cause Paul just now cried aloud and said, *Or are ye ignorant that all we who were baptized into Christ Jesus, were baptized into His death? We were buried therefore with Him by baptism into His death*⁶. These words he spoke to some who were disposed to think that Baptism ministers to us the remission of sins, and adoption, but has not further the fellowship also, by representation, of Christ's true sufferings.

7. In order therefore that we might learn, that whatsoever things Christ endured, FOR US AND FOR OUR SALVATION⁷ He suffered them in reality and not in appearance, and that we also are made partakers of His sufferings, Paul cried with all exactness of truth, *For if we have been planted together with the likeness of His death, we shall be also with the likeness of His resurrection*. Well has he said, *planted together*⁸. For since the true Vine was planted in this place, we also by partaking in the Baptism of death have been *planted together* with Him. And fix thy mind with much attention on the words of the Apostle. He said not, "For if we have been planted together with His death," but, *with the likeness of His death*. For in Christ's case there was death in reality, for His soul was really separated from His body, and real burial, for His holy body was wrapt in pure linen; and everything happened really to Him; but in your case there was only a likeness of death and sufferings, whereas of salvation there was not a likeness but a reality.

8. Having been sufficiently instructed in these things, keep them, I beseech you, in your remembrance; that I also, unworthy though I be, may say of you, *Now I love you*⁹, *because ye always remember me, and hold fast the traditions, which I delivered unto you*. And God, who has presented you *as it were alive from the dead*¹⁰, is able to grant unto you *to walk in newness of life*¹¹: because His is the glory and the power, now and for ever. Amen.

¹The same significance is attributed to the trine immersion by many Fathers, but a different explanation is given by Tertullian (*Adv. Praxean*, c. xxvi.): "Not once only, but three times, we are immersed into the several Persons at the mention of their several names." Gregory of Nyssa (*On the Baptism of Christ*, p. 520 in this Series) joins both reasons together: "By doing this thrice we represent for ourselves that grace of the Resurrection which was wrought in three days: and this we do, not receiving the Sacrament in silence, but while there are spoken over us the Names of the Three Sacred Persons on whom we believed, &c." Compare p. 529. Cf. *Apost. Const* VIII. § 47, Can. 50: "If any Bishop or Presbyter does not perform the three immersions of one initiation, but one immersion made into the death of Christ, let him be deprived."

Milles in his note on this passage mentions that "this form of Baptism is still used in the Greek Church. See *Eucholog*. p. 355. Ed. Jac. Goar. and his notes p. 365."

²[Eccles. iii. 2.](#)

³Tertullian (*De Baptismo*, c. 10) denies that John's Baptism availed for the remission of sins: "If repentance is a thing human, its baptism must necessarily be of the same nature: else if it had been celestial, it would have given both the Holy Spirit and the remission of sins." Cyril's doctrine is more in accordance with the language of the Fathers generally, and of St. [Mark i. 4](#); [Luke iii. 3](#).

⁴πρόξενον.

⁵ἀντίτυπον. The "Antitype" is here the sign or memorial of that which is past, and no longer actually present: See

note 6 on xxi. 1. Cf. [Heb. ix. 24](#).

⁶[Rom. vi. 3](#). In the following sentence several mss. have a different reading: "These things perhaps he said to some who were disposed to think that Baptism ministers remission of sins only, and not adoption, and that further it has not the fellowship, &c." Against this reading, approve by Milles, the Benedictine Editor argues that in [Rom. vi. 3, 4](#), there is no reference to adoption, but only to the fellowship of Christ's Passion, and that Cyril quotes the passage only to prove the latter, the gift of adoption being generally admitted, and therefore not in question.

⁷This clause is contained in the Nicene Creed, and in that which was offered to the Council by Eusebius as the ancient Creed of Cæsarea. It probably formed part of the Creed of Jerusalem, though it is not found in the titles of the Lectures, nor specially explained.

⁸[Rom. 6.5](#). Cyril gives the phrase "*planted together*" a special application to those who had been baptized in the same place where Christ had been buried.

⁹[1 Cor. xi. 2](#): *Now I praise you, &c.*

¹⁰[Rom. vi. 13](#).

¹¹[Rom. 6.4](#).

149

Lecture XXI.

(On the Mysteries. III.)

On Chrism.

[1 JOHN II. 20-28](#)

But ye have an unction from the Holy One, &c.....that, when He shall appear, we may have confidence, and not be ashamed before Him at His coming.

1. HAVING been *baptized into Christ*, and *put on Christ*¹, ye have been made conformable to the Son of God; for God having *foreordained us unto adoption as sons*², made us *to be conformed to the body of Christ's glory*³. Having therefore become *partakers of Christ*⁴, ye are properly called Christs, and of you God said, *Touch not My Christs*⁵, or anointed. Now ye have been made Christs, by receiving the antitype⁶ of the Holy Ghost; and all things have been wrought in you by imitation⁷, because ye are images of Christ. He washed in the river Jordan, and having imparted of the fragrance⁸ of His Godhead to the waters, He came up from them; and the Holy Ghost in the fulness of His being⁹ lighted on Him, like resting upon like¹⁰. And to you in like manner, after you had come up from the pool of the sacred streams, there was given an Unction¹¹, the anti-type of that wherewith Christ was anointed; and this is the Holy Ghost; of whom also the blessed Esaias, in his prophecy respecting Him, said in the person of the Lord, *The Spirit of the Lord is upon Me, because He hath anointed Me: He hath sent Me to preach glad tidings to the poor*¹².

2. For Christ was not anointed by men with oil or material ointment, but the Father having before appointed Him to be the Saviour of the whole world, anointed Him with the Holy Ghost, as Peter says, *Jesus of Nazareth, whom God anointed with the Holy Ghost*¹³. David also the Prophet cried, saying, *Thy throne, O God, is for ever and ever; a sceptre of righteousness is the sceptre of Thy kingdom; Thou hast loved righteousness and hated iniquity; therefore God even Thy God hath anointed Thee with the oil of gladness above Thy fellows*¹⁴. And as Christ was in reality crucified, and buried, and raised, and you are in Baptism accounted worthy of being crucified, buried, and

raised together with Him in a likeness, so is it with the unction also. As He was anointed with an ideal¹⁵ oil of gladness, that is, with the Holy Ghost, called oil of gladness, because He is the author of spiritual gladness, so ye were anointed with ointment, having been made partakers and *fellows of Christ*.

¹[Gal. iii. 27.](#)

²[Eph. i. 5.](#)

³[Phil. iii. 21.](#)

⁴[Heb. iii. 14.](#)

⁵[Ps. cv. 15.](#)

⁶ἀντίτυπον. Cat. xx. 6; xxiii. 20. Twice in this section as in [Heb. ix. 24](#) (ἀντίτυπα τῶν ἀληθινῶν), ἀντίτυπον is the copy or figure representing the original pattern (τύπος, cf. [Acts vii. 44](#)). Otherwise (as in Cat. x. 11; xiii. 19; xxii. 3) τύπος is the figure to be subsequently realised in the antitype.

⁷εἰκονικῶςεἰκόνες τοῦ Χριστοῦ.

⁸χρώτων, literally “tinctures.” The Ben. Ed. writes: “For φώτων we have written χρώτων with Codd. Coisl. Ottob. Roe, Casaub., &c...But we must write χρώτων from χρώτα, not χρώτων from χρώτες. Authors use the word χρώτα to signify the effluence of an odour. So Gregory of Nyssa takes it in his 3rd *Homily on the Song of Songs*, p. 512; and S. Maximus in *Question 37 on Scripture*: ‘χρώτα we say is the godliness (εὐσέβειαν) whereby S. Paul was to the one a savour of life unto life.’...In the *Procatechesis*, § 15, Cyril calls the waters of Baptism ὑδάτων χριστοφόρων ἐχόντων εὐωδίαν. If however any one prefers the reading φώτων, he may defend himself by the authority of Epiphanius, who in the *Exposition of the Faith*, c. 15, says that Christ descending into the water gave rather than received,...illuminating them, and empowering them for a type of what was to be accomplished in Him.” According to the Ebionite Gospel of St. Matthew in Epiphanius (*Hær.* xxx. *Ebionitæ*. c. 13), when Jesus came up out of the water a great light shone around the place: a tradition to which the Benedictine Editor thinks the reading φώτων may refer. Justin M. (*Dialog.* c. lxxxviii.): “When Jesus had stepped into the water, a fire was kindled in the Jordan.” Otto quotes the legend, as found in *Orac. Sibyll.* vii. 81–83:—

“Ὅς σε Λόγον γέννησε Πατήρ Πνεῦμ’ ὄρνιν ἄφηκεν,

Ἰὼν ἀπαγγελτῆρα λόγων, Λόγον ὕδασι ἀγνοῖς

Ῥαίνων, σὸν Βάπτισμα δι’ οὗ πυρὸς ἐξεφαάνθης .

⁹οὐσιώδης ἐπιφοίσεις ἐγένετο. The Benedictine Editor understands this phrase as an allusion to the descent of the Holy Ghost on Jesus in a substantial bodily form. So Gregory Nazianzen (*Orat* xliv. 17), says that the Holy Ghost descended on the Apostles οὐσιωδῶς καὶ σωματικῶς. But Anastasius Sinaita interprets οὐσιωδῶς in this latter passage as meaning “in the essence and reality of His (Divine) Person:” and this latter sense agreeing with the frequent use of οὐσιωδής by Athanasius is well rendered by Canon Mason (*The Relation of Confirmation to Baptism*, p. 343, “in the fulness of His being.”

¹⁰Cf. Greg. Naz. *Orat.* xxxix: “The Sprit also bears witness to His Godhead, for he comes to that which is like Himself.”

¹¹Cf. Tertullian, *De Baptismo*, c. 7: “Exinde egressi de lavacro perungimur benedictâ unctione.” It is clear that the Unction mentioned in these passages was conferred at the same time and place as Baptism. Whether it formed

part of that Sacrament, or was regarded by Cyril as a separate and independent rite, has been made a matter of controversy. See Index, “Chrism.”

¹²[Is. lxi. 1.](#)

¹³[Acts x. 38.](#)

¹⁴[Ps. xlv. 6, 7.](#)

¹⁵νοητῶ cannot here be translated “spiritual” because of πνευματικῆς immediately following. Cf. i. 4, note.

150

3. But beware of supposing this to be plain ointment. For as the Bread of the Eucharist, after the invocation of the Holy Ghost, is mere bread no longer¹, but the Body of Christ, so also this holy ointment is no more simple ointment, nor (so to say) common, after invocation, but it is Christ's gift of grace, and, by the advent of the Holy Ghost, is made fit to impart His Divine Nature². Which ointment is symbolically applied to thy forehead and thy other senses³; and while thy body is anointed with the visible ointment, thy soul is sanctified by the Holy and life-giving Spirit.

4. And ye were first anointed on the forehead, that ye might be delivered from the shame, which the first man who transgressed bore about with him everywhere; and that *with unveiled face ye might reflect as a mirror the glory of the Lord*⁴. Then on your ears; that ye might receive the ears which are quick to hear the Divine Mysteries, of which Esaias said, *The Lord gave me also an ear to hear*⁵; and the Lord Jesus in the Gospel, *He that hath ears to hear let him hear*⁶. Then on the nostrils; that receiving the sacred ointment ye may say, *We are to God a sweet savour of Christ, in them that are saved*⁷. Afterwards on your breast; that having put on the *breast-plate of righteousness*, ye may *stand against the wiles of the devil*⁸. For as Christ after His Baptism, and the visitation of the Holy Ghost, went forth and vanquished the adversary, so likewise ye, after Holy Baptism and the Mystical Chrism, having put on the whole armour of the Holy Ghost, are to stand against the power of the adversary, and vanquish it, saying, *I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me*⁹.

5. Having been counted worthy of this Holy Chrism, ye are called Christians, verifying the name also by your new birth. For before you were deemed worthy of this grace, ye had properly no right to this title, but were advancing on your way towards being Christians.

6. Moreover, you should know that in the old Scripture there lies the symbol of this Chrism. For what time Moses imparted to his brother the command of God, and made him High-priest, after bathing in water, he anointed him; and Aaron was called Christ or Anointed, evidently from the typical Chrism. So also the High-priest, in advancing Solomon to the kingdom, anointed him after he had bathed in Gihon¹⁰. To them however these things happened in a figure, but to you not in a figure, but in truth; because ye were truly anointed by the Holy Ghost. Christ is the beginning of your salvation; for He is truly the First-fruit, and ye the mass¹¹; but if the First-fruit be holy, it is manifest that Its holiness will pass to the mass also.

7. Keep This unspotted: for it shall teach you all things, if it abide in you, as you have just heard declared by the blessed John, discoursing much concerning this Unction¹². For this holy thing is a spiritual safeguard of the body, and salvation of the soul. Of this the blessed Esaias prophesying of old time said, *And on this mountain,—(now he calls the Church a mountain elsewhere also, as when he says, In the last days the mountain of the Lord's house shall be manifest*¹³;)—*on this mountain shall the Lord make unto all nations a feast; they shall drink wine, they shall drink gladness, they shall anoint themselves with ointment*¹⁴. And that he may make thee sure, hear what he says of this ointment as being mystical; *Deliver all these things to the nations, for the counsel of the Lord is unto all nations*¹⁵. Having been anointed, therefore, with this holy ointment, keep it unspotted and unblemished in you, pressing forward by good works, and being made well-pleasing to the Captain of your salvation, Christ Jesus, to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen.

¹Compare xix. 7; xxiii. 7, 19; and the section on “*Eucharist*” in the Introduction.

²Χριστοῦ χάρισμα καὶ Πνεύματος ἁγίου παρουσία τῆς αὐτοῦ Θεότητος ἐνεργητικὸν γινόμενον. The meaning of this passage seems to have been obscured by divergent views of the order and construction of the words. In the Oxford translation, followed by Dr. Pusey (*Real Presence*, p. 357), the Chrism is “the gift of Christ, and by the presence of His godhead it causes in us the Holy Ghost.” The order of the operations proper to the two Divine Persons seems thus to be inverted.

According to the Benedictine Editor, and Canon Mason (*Relation of Confirmation to Baptism*, p. 344), it is “Christ’s gracious gift, and is made effectual to convey the Holy Ghost by the presence of His own Godhead,”—i.e. apparently, the Godhead of the Holy Ghost conveys the Holy Ghost.

But according to the context “the presence” must be that of the Divine Person who has been invoked, namely the Holy Ghost: and this is clearly expressed in the order of the words Πνεύματος ἁγίου παρουσία τῆς αὐτοῦ Θεότητος ἐνεργητικόν. The connexion of the words Πν. ἁγ. παρουσία is put beyond doubt by the Invocation in the Liturgy of S. James quoted in *Myst. V.* 7, note 8. The true meaning thus seems to be that the Chrism is Christ’s gift of grace, and imparts His Divine nature by the presence of the Holy Ghost after the Invocation. This meaning is confirmed by the formula given in *Apost. Const.* vii. 44, for the consecration of the Chrism: “Grant also now that this ointment may be made effectual in the baptized, that the sweet savour of Thy Christ may remain firm and stable in him, and that, having died with Him, he may rise again and live with Him.” The Chrism is thus regarded as “the Seal” which confirms the proper benefits of Baptism.

³ἐπὶ μετώπου καὶ τῶν ἄλλων σου αἰσθητηρίων. The forehead may be regarded as representing the sense of touch; or we may translate, according to the idiomatic use of ἄλλος, “thy forehead and thine organs of sense besides.” See Winer, *Grammar of N.T. Greek*, P. III. Sect. lix. 7: Riddell, *Digest of Platonic Idioms*, § 46.

⁴[2 Cor. iii. 18.](#)

⁵[Is. i. 4.](#)

⁶[Matt. xi. 15.](#)

⁷[2 Cor. ii. 15.](#)

⁸[Eph. vi. 14, and 11.](#)

⁹[Phil. iv. 13.](#)

¹⁰[1 Kings i. 39.](#)

¹¹[Rom. xi. 16.](#)

¹²[1 John ii. 20:](#) *But ye have an unction (χρῖσμα) from the Holy One.*

¹³[Is. ii. 2.](#)

¹⁴[Isa. 25.6.](#) The Septuagint differs much from the Hebrew, both here and in the following verse. R.V. “And in this mountain shall the Lord of host make unto all people a feast of fat things, a feast of wines on the lees, of fat things full of marrow, of wines on the lees well refined.”

¹⁵[Isa. 25.7.](#) R.V. “And He will destroy in this mountain the face of the covering that is cast over all peoples, and the veil that is spread over all nations.”

Lecture XXII.

(On the Mysteries. IV.)

On the Body and Blood of Christ.

[1 COR. XI. 23](#)

I received of the Lord that which also I delivered unto you, how that the Lord Jesus, in the night in which He was betrayed, took bread, &c.

1. EVEN of itself¹ the teaching of the Blessed Paul is sufficient to give you a full assurance concerning those Divine Mysteries, of which having been deemed worthy, ye are become of *the same body*² and blood with Christ. For you have just heard him say distinctly, *That our Lord Jesus Christ in the night in which He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks He brake it, and gave to His disciples, saying, Take, eat, this is My Body: and having taken the cup and given thanks, He said, Take, drink, this is My Blood*³. Since then He Himself declared and said of the Bread, *This is My Body*, who shall dare to doubt any longer? And since He has Himself affirmed and said, *This is My Blood*, who shall ever hesitate, saying, that it is not His blood?

2. He once in Cana of Galilee, turned the water into wine, akin to blood⁴, and is it incredible that He should have turned wine into blood? When called to a bodily marriage, He miraculously wrought⁵ that wonderful work; and *on the children of the bride-chamber*⁶, shall He not much rather be acknowledged to have bestowed the fruition of His Body and Blood⁷?

3. Wherefore with full assurance let us partake as of the Body and Blood of Christ: for in the figure⁸ of Bread is given to thee His Body, and in the figure of Wine His Blood; that thou by partaking of the Body and Blood of Christ, mayest be made of the same body and the same blood with Him. For thus we come to bear Christ⁹ in us, because His Body and Blood are distributed¹⁰ through our members; thus it is that, according to the blessed Peter, *we become partakers of the divine nature*¹¹.

4. Christ on a certain occasion discoursing with the Jews said, *Except ye eat My flesh and drink My blood, ye have no life in you*¹². They not having heard His saying in a spiritual

¹αὐτῇ found in all MSS. is changed for the worse into αὐτῇ by the Benedictine Editor.

²Introduction, "Eucharist." The word σύσσωμοι has a different sense in [Eph. iii. 6](#), where it is applied to the Gentiles as having been made members of Christ's body the Church.

³[1 Cor. xi. 23](#). The clause "and gave to His disciples" is an addition taken from [Matt. xxvi. 26](#). The part relating to the cup does not correspond exactly either with St. Paul's language or with the Evangelists'.

⁴οἰκεῖον αἷματι. Cod. Scirlet. (Grodecq), Mesm. (Morel), Vindob.; Ben. Ed. οἰκεῖω νεύματι, Codd. Monac. 1, 2, Genovef. Vatt. (Prevot.). Rupp. The whole passage is omitted in Codd. Coisl. R. Casaub. owing to the repetition of αἷμα

The reading οἰκεῖω νεύματι, "by His own will," introduces a superfluous thought, and destroys the very point of Cyril's argument, in which the previous change of water into an element so different as wine is regarded as giving an *a fortiori* probability to the change of that which is already "akin to blood" into blood itself.

If Cyril thus seems to teach a physical change of the wine, it must be remembered that we are not bound to accept his view, but only to state it accurately. See however the section of the Introduction on his Eucharistic doctrine.

⁵ἐθαυματούργησε τὴν παραδοξοποιάν. Cf. Chrysost. *Epist. I. ad Olympiad. de Deo*, § 1, c.: τότε θαυματουργεῖ καὶ παραδοξοποιεῖ.

⁶[Matt. ix. 15.](#)

⁷Ben. Ed.: "That the force of Cyril's argument may be the better understood, we must observe that in Baptism is celebrated the marriage of Christ with the Christian soul; and that the consummation of this marriage is perfected through the union of bodies in the mystery of the Eucharist. Read Chrysostom's *Hom. xx. in Ephes.*" Chrysostom's words are: "In like manner therefore we become one flesh with Christ by participation (μετουσίᾳ)." But the participation expressed by μετουσία does not necessarily refer to the Eucharist. From the use of the word in Cat. xxiii. 11, and in Athanasius (*Contra Arianos*, Or. i.; *de Synodis*. 19, 22, 25) the meaning rather seems to be that we are one flesh with Christ not by nature but by His gift.

⁸See Index, Τύπος, and the references there, and Waterland, *On the Eucharist*, c. vii.

⁹Χριστοφόροι γινόμεθα. Procat. 15.

¹⁰Ben. Ed.: "Ἀναδιδομένου. The Codices Coisl. Roe, Casaub. Scirlet. Ottob. 2. Genovef. have ἀναδεδεγμένοι, which does not agree well with the Genitives τοῦ σώματος and τοῦ αἵματος. It is evident that it was an ill-contrived emendation of ἀναδιδομένου, the transcribers being offended at the distribution of Christ's Body among our members. But Cyril uses even the same word in Cat. xxiii. 9: Οὗτος ὁ ἄρτος....εἰς πᾶσάν σου τὴν σύστασιν ἀναδίδεται, εἰς ὠφέλειαν σώματος καὶ ψυχῆς, 'This Bread is distributed into thy whole system, to the benefit of body and soul.'" Ἀναδιδομένου is the reading of Milles and Rupp. For similar language see Justin M. *Apol.* i. 66; Iren. V. ii. 2.

¹¹[2 Pet. i. 4.](#)

¹²[John vi. 53.](#)

sense were offended, and went back, supposing that He was inviting them to eat flesh.

5. In the Old Testament also there was shew-bread; but this, as it belonged to the Old Testament, has come to an end; but in the New Testament there is Bread of heaven, and a Cup of salvation, sanctifying soul and body; for as the Bread corresponds to our body, so is the Word¹ appropriate to our soul.

6. Consider therefore the Bread and the Wine not as bare elements, for they are, according to the Lord's declaration, the Body and Blood of Christ; for even though sense suggests this to thee, yet let faith establish thee. Judge not the matter from the taste, but from faith be fully assured without misgiving, that the Body and Blood of Christ have been vouchsafed to thee.

7. Also the blessed David shall advise thee the meaning of this, saying, *Thou hast prepared a table before me in the presence of them that afflict me*². What he says, is to this effect: Before Thy coming, the evil spirits prepared a table for men³, polluted and defiled and full of devilish influence⁴; but since Thy coming. O Lord, *Thou hast prepared a table before me*. When the man says to God, *Thou hast prepared before me a table*, what other does he indicate but that mystical and spiritual Table, which God hath prepared for us *over against*, that is, contrary and in opposition to the evil spirits? And very truly; for that had communion with devils, but this, with God. *Thou hast anointed my head with oil*⁵. With oil He anointed thine head upon thy forehead, for the seal which thou hast of God; that thou mayest be made *the engraving of the signet, Holiness unto God*⁶. And *thy cup intoxicateth me, as very strong*⁷. Thou seest that cup here spoken of, which Jesus took in His hands, and gave thanks, and said, *This*

is My blood, which is shed for many for the remission of sins⁸.

8. Therefore Solomon also, hinting at this grace, says in Ecclesiastes, *Come hither, eat thy bread with joy* (that is, the spiritual bread; *Come hither*, he calls with the call to salvation and blessing), *and drink thy wine with a merry heart* (that is, the spiritual wine); *and let oil be poured out upon thy head* (thou seest he alludes even to the mystic Chrism); *and let thy garments be always white, for the Lord is well pleased with thy works*⁹; for before thou camest to Baptism, thy works were *vanity of vanities*¹⁰. But now, having put off thy old garments, and put on those which are spiritually white, thou must be continually robed in white: of course we mean not this, that thou art always to wear white raiment; but thou must be clad in the garments that are truly white and shining and spiritual, that thou mayest say with the blessed Esaias, *My soul shall be joyful in my God; for He hath clothed me with a garment of salvation, and put a robe of gladness around me*¹¹.

9. Having learnt these things, and been fully assured that the seeming bread is not bread, though sensible to taste, but the Body of Christ; and that the seeming wine is not wine, though the taste will have it so, but the Blood of Christ¹²; and that of this David sung of old, saying, *And bread strengtheneth man's heart, to make his face to shine with oil*¹³, "strengthen thou thine heart," by partaking thereof as spiritual, and "make the face of thy soul to shine." And so having it unveiled with a pure conscience, mayest thou *reflect as a mirror the glory of the Lord*¹⁴, and proceed from *glory to glory*, in Christ Jesus our Lord:—To whom be honour, and might, and glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

¹Ben. Ed.: "Here we are to understand (by ὁ Λόγος) the Divine Word, not the bare discourse of God, but the second Person of the Holy Trinity, Christ Himself, the Bread of Heaven, as He testifies of Himself, [John vi. 51](#): Him Cyril contrasts with the earthly shew-bread in the O.T.; otherwise he could not rightly from this sentence infer, by the particle οὖν, "therefore," that the Eucharist is truly the Body and Blood of Christ. And since he says, in Cat. xxiii. 15, that the Eucharistic food is "appointed for the substance of the soul," for its benefit, that cannot be said of Christ's body or of His soul, but only of the Word which is conjoined with both. Moreover that the Divine Word is the food of Angels and of the soul, is a common mode of speaking with all the Fathers. They often play on the ambiguity of this word (λόγος), saying sometimes that the Divine Word, sometimes the word and oracles of God, are the food of our souls: both statements are true. For the whole life-giving power of the Eucharist is derived from the Word of God united to the flesh which He assumed: and the whole benefit of Eucharistic eating consists in the union of our soul with the Word, in meditation on His mysteries and sayings, and conformity thereto."

²[Ps. xxiii. 5](#).

³ἡλιοσημένην, a good restoration by Milles, with Codd. Roe, Casaub. Coislin. The earlier printed texts had ἡλυσιμένην, "overshadowed." Cf. [Mal. i. 7](#): ἄρτους ἡλιοσημένους, Τράπεζα Κυρίου ἡλιοσημένη ἐστίν

⁴Cyril refers to the idolatrous feasts, which St. Paul calls "the table of devils," [1 Cor. x. 21](#).

⁵[Ps. xxiii. 5](#).

⁶[Ex. xxviii. 36](#); [Ecclesiasticus 45.12](#). The plate of pure gold on the forefront of Aaron's mitre was engraved with the motto, *Holy unto the Lord*. This symbolism Cyril transfers to the sacramental Chrism, in which the forehead is signed with ointment, and the soul with the seal of God.

⁷[Ps. xxiii. 5](#): *My cup runneth over*. Eusebius (*Dem. Evang.* l. c. 10, § 28) applies the Psalm, as Cyril does, to the Eucharist.

⁸[Matt. xxvi. 28](#).

⁹[Eccles. ix. 7, 8](#).

¹⁰For προσέλθης (Bened.) we must read προσήλθες, or, with Monac. 1, προσελθεῖν.

¹¹[Is. lxi. 10.](#)

¹²On this passage see the section of the Introduction referred to in the Index, “*Eucharist*.”

¹³[Ps. civ. 15.](#)

¹⁴[2 Cor. iii. 18.](#)

153

Lecture XXIII.

(On the Mysteries. V.)

On the Sacred Liturgy and Communion¹.

[1 PET. II. 1](#)

Wherefore putting away all filthiness, and all guile, and evil speaking², &c.

1. BY the loving-kindness of God ye have heard sufficiently at our former meetings concerning Baptism, and Chrism, and partaking of the Body and Blood of Christ; and now it is necessary to pass on to what is next in order, meaning to-day to set the crown on the spiritual building of your edification.

2. Ye have seen then the Deacon who gives to the Priest water to wash³, and to the Presbyters who stand round God's altar. He gave it not at all because of bodily defilement; it is not that; for we did not enter the Church at first⁴ with defiled bodies. But the washing of hands is a symbol that ye ought to be pure from all sinful and unlawful deeds; for since the hands are a symbol of action, by washing⁵ them, it is evident, we represent the purity and blamelessness of our conduct. Didst thou not hear the blessed David opening this very mystery, and saying, *I will wash my hands in innocency, and so will compass Thine Altar, O Lord*⁶? The washing therefore of hands is a symbol of immunity⁷ from sin.

3. Then the Deacon cries aloud, “Receive ye one another; and let us kiss one another⁸.” Think not that this kiss is of the same character with those given in public by common friends. It is not such: but this kiss blends souls one with another, and courts entire forgiveness for them. The kiss therefore is the sign that our souls are mingled together, and banish all remembrance of wrongs. For this cause Christ said, *If thou art offering thy gift at the altar, and there rememberest that thy brother hath aught against thee, leave there thy gift upon the altar, and go thy way; first be reconciled to thy brother, and then come and offer thy gift*⁹. The kiss therefore is reconciliation, and for this reason holy: as the blessed Paul somewhere cried, saying, *Greet ye one another with a holy kiss*¹⁰; and Peter, *with a kiss of charity*¹¹.

4. After this the Priest cries aloud, “Lift up your hearts¹².” For truly ought we in that most awful hour to have our heart on high with God, and not below, thinking of earth and earthly things. In effect therefore the Priest bids all in that hour to dismiss all cares of this life, or household anxieties, and to have

¹This title is added by the Benedictine Editor. There is nothing corresponding to it in the Greek.

²The text is made up from memory of [James i. 21](#): διὸ ἀποθέμενοι πᾶσαν ῥυπαρίαν, and [1 Pet. ii. 1](#): ἀποθέμενοι οὖν πᾶσαν κακίαν καὶ πάντα δόλον καὶ ὑποκρίσεις καὶ πάσας καταλαλίας.

³In the *Apostolic Constitutions*, VIII. xi, this duty is assigned to a sub-deacon: "Let one of the sub-deacons bring water to wash the hands of the priests, which is a symbol of the purity of those souls that are devoted to God." See *Dictionary of Christian Antiquities*, "Lavabo." The Priest who celebrates the Eucharist is here distinguished by the title ἱερεὺς from the other Presbyters who stood round the altar.

⁴Cyril evidently refers to the custom of placing vessels of water outside the entrance of the Church. Bingham, *Antiquities*, VIII. iii. 6. Chrysost. *In Johannem Hom.* lxxiii. 3: "Do we then wash our hands when going into Church, and shall we not wash our hearts also?" That the same custom was observed in heathen Temples appears from Herod. I. 51: περιὸρᾶντήρια δύο ἀνέθηκε (See Bähr's note). Compare also Joseph. *Ant. Jud.* III. vi. 2.

⁵[τῷ] νίψασθαι. Rupp: "Tῷ ex conjectura addidi." Possibly the original reading was νιψάμενοι, which would easily become altered through the presence of νιψασθαι in the preceding line. This washing is not mentioned in the Liturgy of St. James.

⁶Ps. xxvi. 6. In the Liturgy of Constantinople this Psalm was chanted by the Priest and Deacon while washing their hands at the Prothesis or Credence.

⁷ἀνυπεύθυνος.

⁸These two directions by the Deacon are separated in the Liturgy of St. James: after the dismissal of the Catechumens, the Deacon says, "Take note one of another;" and after the Incense, Cherubic hymn, Oblation, Creed, and a short prayer "that we may be united one to another in the bond of peace and charity," the Deacon says, "Let us salute (ἀγαπῶμεν) one another with a holy kiss." In the *Apostolic Constitutions*, VIII. 11, there is but one such direction, and this comes before the washing of hands and the dismissal of the Catechumens, "Salute (ἀσπάσασθε) ye one another with a holy kiss."

⁹Matt. v. 23. From Cyril's reference to this passage "it may be inferred that the kiss of peace had been given before the gifts were brought to the altar, according to ancient custom attested by Justin M. *Apolog.* i. c. 65: 'Having ended the prayers' (for the newly baptized) 'we salute one another with a kiss. Then there is brought to the President of the brethren bread, and a cup of wine mixed with water'" (Ben. Ed.). There is the same order in the *Apost. Const.* VIII. 12, and in the 19th Canon of the Synod of Laodicea; but in the Liturgy of S. James the gifts are offered before the kiss of peace.

¹⁰1 Cor. xvi. 20.

¹¹1 Pet. iii. 15.

¹²The words are slightly varied in the Liturgies: thus in the Liturgy of St. James, "Let us lift up our mind and hearts;" in the *Apost. Const.* viii. 12, "Lift up your mind."

their heart in heaven with the merciful God. Then ye answer, "We lift them up unto the Lord:" assenting to it, by your avowal. But let no one come here, who could say with his mouth, "We lift up our hearts unto the Lord," but in his thoughts have his mind concerned with the cares of this life. At all times, rather, God should be in our memory but if this is impossible by reason of human infirmity, in that hour above all this should be our earnest endeavour.

5. Then the Priest says, "Let us give thanks unto the Lord." For verily we are bound to give thanks, that He called us, unworthy as we were, to so great grace; that He reconciled us when we were His foes; that He vouchsafed to us the Spirit of adoption. Then ye say, "It is meet and right:" for in giving thanks we do a meet thing and a right; but He did not right, but more than right, in doing us good, and counting us meet for such great benefits.

6. After this, we make mention of heaven, and earth, and sea¹; of sun and moon; of stars and all the creation, rational and irrational, visible and invisible; of Angels, Archangels, Virtues, Dominions, Principalities, Powers, Thrones; of the Cherubim with many faces: in effect repeating that call of David's *Magnify the Lord with me*². We make mention also of the Seraphim, whom Esaias in the Holy Spirit saw standing around the throne of God, and

with two of their wings veiling their face, and with twain their feet, while with twain they did fly, crying *Holy, Holy, Holy, is the Lord of Sabaoth*³. For the reason of our reciting this confession of God⁴, delivered down to us from the Seraphim, is this, that so we may be partakers with the hosts of the world above in their Hymn of praise.

7. Then having sanctified ourselves by these spiritual Hymns, we beseech the merciful God to send forth His Holy Spirit upon the gifts lying before Him; that He may make the Bread the Body of Christ, and the Wine the Blood of Christ⁵; for whatsoever the Holy Ghost has touched, is surely sanctified and changed.

8. Then, after the spiritual sacrifice, the bloodless service, is completed, over that sacrifice of propitiation⁶ we entreat God for the common peace of the Churches, for the welfare of the world⁷; for kings; for soldiers and allies; for the sick; for the afflicted; and, in a word, for all who stand in need of succour we all pray and offer this sacrifice.

9. Then we commemorate also those who have fallen asleep before us, first Patriarchs, Prophets, Apostles, Martyrs, that at their prayers and intercessions God would receive our petition⁸. Then on behalf also of the Holy Fathers and Bishops who have fallen asleep before us, and in a word of all who in past years have fallen asleep among us, believing that it will be a very great benefit to the souls⁹, for whom the supplication is put up, while that holy and most awful sacrifice is set forth.

10. And I wish to persuade you by an illustration. For I know that many say, what is a soul profited, which departs from this world either with sins, or without sins, if it be commemorated in the prayer? For if a king were to banish certain who had given him offence, and then those who belong to them¹⁰

¹Compare the noble Eucharistic Preface in the Liturgy of St. James: "It is verily meet, right, becoming, and our bounden duty to praise Thee, to sing of Thee, to bless Thee, to worship Thee, to glorify Thee, to give thanks to Thee the Maker of every creature, visible and invisible, the Treasure of eternal blessings; the Fount of life and immortality, the God and Lord of all, whom the heavens of heavens do praise, and all the powers thereof, sun and moon and all the choir of the stars, earth, sea, and all that in them is, Jerusalem the heavenly assembly, Church of the firstborn that are written in the heavens, spirits of righteous men and prophets, souls of martyrs and Apostles. Angels, Archangels, Thrones, Dominions, Principalities, Authorities, and Powers dread, also the many-eyed Cherubim, and the six-winged Seraphim, which with twain of their wings cover their faces, and with twain their feet, and with twain do fly, crying one to another with unresting lips, in unceasing praises, singing with loud voice the triumphant hymn of Thy majestic glory, shouting, and glorifying, and crying aloud, and saying,—Holy, Holy, Holy, O Lord of Hosts, heaven and earth are full of Thy glory. Hosanna in the highest; blessed is He that cometh in the name of the Lord; Hosanna in the highest."

²Ps. xxxiv. 3.

³Is. vi. 2, 3.

⁴θεολογίαν, "the doctrine of the Godhead," either of the Son in particular, or, as here, of the whole Trinity: cf. Athanas. *Contra Arianos*, Or. i. § 18: νῦν ἐν τριάδι ἡ θεολογία τελεία ἐστίν.

⁵In the Liturgy of St. James the Triumphal Hymn is followed by the 'Recital of the work of Redemption,' and of 'the Institution,' by the 'Great Oblation,' and then by the 'Invocation,' as follows: "Have mercy upon us, O God, after Thy great mercy, and send forth on us, and on these gifts here set before Thee, Thine all-holy Spirit,...that He may come, and by His holy, good, and glorious advent (παρουσία) may sanctify this Bread and make it the holy Body of Thy Christ (*Amen*), and this Cup the precious Blood of Thy Christ" (*Amen*). In Cat. xix. 7, Cyril calls this prayer "the holy Invocation of the Adorable Trinity," and in xxi. 3, "the Invocation of the Holy Ghost."

⁶See Index, "Sacrifice," and the reference there to the Introduction. Compare Athenagoras (*Apol.* c. xiii.): "What have I to do with burnt-offerings, of which God has no need? Though indeed it behoves us to bring a bloodless sacrifice, and the *reasonable service*."

⁷Cyril here gives a brief summary of the "Great Intercession," in which, according to the common text of the Liturgy of St. James, there is a suffrage "for the peace and welfare (εὐστάθεια) of the whole world, and of the holy

Churches of God.” Mr. Hammond thinks that it has been taken from the Deacon’s Litany, and repeated by mistake in the Great Intercession. But from Chrysostom’s language (*In Ep. ad Phil.* Hom. iii. p. 218; Guame, T. xi. p. 251), we must infer that the prayer ὑπὲρ εἰρήνης καὶ εὐσταθείας τοῦ κόσμου formed part of the ‘Great Intercession’ in his Liturgy, as it does in the Clementine (*Apost. Constit.* VIII. § 10).

⁸In the Liturgies of St. James and St. Mark, and in the Clementine, there are similar commemorations of departed saints, especially “patriarchs, prophets, apostles, martyrs,” but nothing corresponding to the words, “that at their prayers and intercessions God would receive our petition.” See Index, *Prayer* and *Intercession*.

⁹So Chrysostom (*In 1 Cor.* Hom. 41, p. 457 A): “Not in vain was this rule ordained by the Apostles, that in the dread Mysteries remembrance should be made of the departed: for they knew that it is a great gain to them, and a great benefit.”

¹⁰οἱ τούτοις διαφέροντες. “Hesychius, Διαφέρει, ἀνήκει. Ubi Kusterus ait, ἀνήκει, id est. “*pertinet*,” vel “*attinet*” Routh, *Scriptor. Eccles. Opuscula*, p. 441). Dr. Routh’s note refers to *Nicæni Conc.* Can. xvi.: ὑφαρπάσαι τὸν τῷ ἐτέρῳ διαφέροντα. Cf. *Synodi Nic. ad Alexandrinos Epist.*: διαφέροντα τῇ Αἰγύπτῳ καὶ τῇ ἀγιωτάτῃ Ἀλεξανδρέων ἐκκλησίᾳ.

155

should weave a crown and offer it to him on behalf of those under punishment, would he not grant a remission of their penalties? In the same way we, when we offer to Him our supplications for those who have fallen asleep, though they be sinners, weave no crown, but offer up Christ sacrificed for our sins¹, propitiating our merciful God for them as well as for ourselves.

11. Then, after these things, we say that Prayer which the Saviour delivered to His own disciples, with a pure conscience entitling God our Father, and saying, *Our Father, which art in heaven*. O most surpassing loving-kindness of God! On them who revolted from Him and were in the very extreme of misery has He bestowed such a complete forgiveness of evil deeds, and so great participation of grace, as that they should even call Him Father. *Our Father, which art in heaven*; and they also are a heaven who *bear the image of the heavenly*², in whom is God, *dwelling and walking in them*³.

12. *Hallowed be Thy Name*. The Name of God is in its nature holy, whether we say so or not; but since it is sometimes profaned among sinners, according to the words, *Through you My Name is continually blasphemed among the Gentiles*⁴, we pray that in us God’s Name may be hallowed; not that it comes to be holy from not being holy, but because it becomes holy in us, when we are made holy, and do things worthy of holiness.

13. *Thy kingdom come*. A pure soul can say with boldness, *Thy kingdom come*; for he who has heard Paul saying, *Let not therefore sin reign in your mortal body*⁵, and has cleansed himself in deed, and thought, and word, will say to God, *Thy kingdom come*.

14. *Thy will be done as in heaven so on earth*. God’s divine and blessed Angels do the will of God, as David said in the Psalm, *Bless the Lord, all ye Angels of His, mighty in strength, that do His pleasure*⁶. So then in effect thou meanest this by thy prayer, “as in the Angels Thy will is done, so likewise be it done on earth in me, O Lord.”

15. *Give us this day our substantial bread*. This common bread is not substantial bread, but this Holy Bread is substantial, that is, appointed for the substance of the soul⁷. For this Bread *goeth not into the belly and is cast out into the draught*⁸, but is distributed into thy whole system for the benefit of body and soul⁹. But by *this day*, he means, “each day,” as also Paul said, *While it is called to-day*¹⁰.

16. *And forgive us our debts as we also forgive our debtors*. For we have many sins. For we offend both in word and in thought, and very many things we do worthy of condemnation; and *if we say that we have no sin*, we lie, as John says¹¹. And we make a covenant with God, entreating Him to forgive us our sins, as we also forgive our neighbours their debts. Considering then what we receive and in return for what, let us not put off nor delay to forgive one another. The offences committed against us are slight and trivial, and easily settled; but those which we have committed against God are great, and need such mercy as His only is. Take heed therefore, lest for the

slight and trivial sins against thee thou shut out for thyself forgiveness from God for thy very grievous sins.

17. *And lead us not into temptation, O Lord.* Is this then what the Lord teaches us to pray, that we may not be tempted at all? How then is it said elsewhere, “a man untempted, is a man unproved¹²,” and again, *My brethren, count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations*¹³? But does perchance the entering into temptation mean the being overwhelmed by the temptation? For temptation is, as it were, like a winter torrent difficult to cross. Those therefore who are not overwhelmed in temptations, pass through, shewing themselves excellent swimmers, and not being swept away by them at all; while those who are not such, enter into them and are overwhelmed. As for example, Judas having entered into the temptation of the love of money, swam not through it, but was overwhelmed and was strangled¹⁴ both in body and spirit. Peter entered into the temptation of the denial; but having entered, he was not over

¹According to the Ben. Ed. the meaning is not “We offer Christ, who was sacrificed for our sins,” but “We offer for our sins Christ sacrificed,” i.e. “Christ lying on the altar as a victim sacrificed,” in allusion to [Rev. 5.6,12](#). See Index, “Sacrifice.”

²[1 Cor. xv. 49.](#)

³[2 Cor. vi. 16.](#)

⁴[Is. lii. 5;](#) [Rom. ii. 24.](#)

⁵[Rom. vi. 12.](#)

⁶[Ps. ciii. 20.](#)

⁷“It is manifest that the author derives the word ἐπιούσιος from the two words ἐπί and οὐσία, as do many others: although the explanation which derives it from ἐπιούση ἡμέρα is more probable. We render it “substantial” in accordance with Cyril’s meaning, with which the word “super-substantial does not agree” (Ben. Ed.).

⁸[Matt. xv. 17.](#)

⁹Cat. xxii. § 3, note 1. Ben. Ed. “We are not to think that Cyril supposed the Body of Christ to be distributed and digested into our body; but in the usual way of speaking he attributes to the Holy Body that which belongs only to the species under which It is hidden. Nor does he deny that those species pass into the draught, but only the Body of Christ.” Cf. Iren. V. ii. 2, 3, and “Eucharistic Doctrine” in the Introduction.

¹⁰[Heb. iii. 15.](#)

¹¹[John i. 8.](#) *We deceive ourselves.*

¹²Tertull. *De Bapt.* c. 20: “For the word had gone before ‘that no one untempted should attain to the celestial kingdoms.’” *Apost. Const.* II. viii.: “The Scripture says, ‘A man that is a reprobate (ἀδόκιμος) is not tried (ἀπειράστος) by God.’” Resch, *Agrapha*, Logion 26, p. 188, quotes allusions to the saying in [Jas. i. 12, 13](#); [2 Cor. xiii. 5, 6, 7](#), and concludes that it was recorded as a saying of our Lord in one of the un-canonical gospels ([Luke i. 1](#)), where it occurred in the context of the incident narrated in [Matt. xxvi. 41](#), [Mark xiv. 38](#).

¹³[Jas. i. 2.](#)

¹⁴ἀπεπνίγη. [Matt. xxvii. 5](#): ἀπήγγατο.

whelmed by it, but manfully swam through it, and was delivered from the temptation¹. Listen again, in another place, to a company of unscathed saints, giving thanks for deliverance from temptation, *Thou, O God hast proved us; Thou hast tried us by fire like as silver is tried. Thou broughtest us into the net; Thou layedst afflictions upon our loins. Thou hast caused men to ride over our heads; we went through fire and water; and thou broughtest us out into a place of rest*². Thou seest them speaking boldly in regard to their having passed through and not been pierced³. *But Thou broughtest us out into a place of rest*; now their coming into a place of rest is their being delivered from temptation.

18. *But deliver us from the evil.* If *Lead us not into temptation* implied the not being tempted at all, He would not have said, *But deliver us from the evil.* Now evil is our adversary the devil, from whom we pray to be delivered⁴. Then after completing the prayer thou sayest, *Amen*⁵; by this *Amen*, which means “So be it,” setting thy seal to the petitions of the divinely-taught prayer.

19. After this the Priest says, “Holy things to holy men.” Holy are the gifts presented, having received the visitation of the Holy Ghost; holy are ye also, having been deemed worthy of the Holy Ghost; the holy things therefore correspond to the holy persons⁶. Then ye say, “One is Holy, One is the Lord, Jesus Christ⁷.” For One is truly holy, by nature holy; we too are holy, but not by nature, only by participation, and discipline, and prayer.

20. After this ye hear the chanter inviting you with a sacred melody to the communion of the Holy Mysteries, and saying, *O taste and see that the Lord is good*⁸. Trust not the judgment to thy bodily palate⁹ no, but to faith unfaltering; for they who taste are bidden to taste, not bread and wine, but the anti-typical¹⁰ Body and Blood of Christ.

21. In approaching¹¹ therefore, come not with thy wrists extended, or thy fingers spread; but make thy left hand a throne for the right, as for that which is to receive a King¹². And having hollowed thy palm, receive the Body of Christ, saying over it, *Amen*. So then after having carefully hallowed thine eyes by the touch of the Holy Body, partake of it; giving heed lest thou lose any portion thereof¹³; for whatever thou lovest, is evidently a loss to thee as it were from one of thine own members. For tell me, if any one gave thee grains of gold, wouldest thou not hold them with all carefulness, being on thy guard against losing any of them, and suffering loss? Wilt thou not then much more carefully keep watch, that not a crumb fall from thee of what is more precious than gold and precious stones?

22. Then after thou hast partaken of the Body of Christ, draw near also to the Cup of His Blood; not stretching forth thine hands, but bending¹⁴, and saying with an air of worship and reverence, *Amen*¹⁵, hallow thyself by partaking also of the Blood of Christ. And while the moisture is still upon thy lips, touch it with thine hands, and hallow thine eyes and brow and the other organs of sense¹⁶. Then wait for the prayer, and give thanks unto God, who hath accounted thee worthy of so great mysteries¹⁷.

¹Compare the description of Peter’s repentance in Cat. ii. 19.

²[Ps. lxvi. 10-12.](#)

³For ἐμπαρῆναι the Ben. Ed. conjectures ἐμπαγῆναι “to have been stuck fast.”

⁴Cyril is here a clear witness for the reference of τοῦ πονηροῦ to “the wicked one.”

⁵From § 14, εὐχόμενος τοῦτο λέγεις, it seems probable that the whole Prayer was said by the people as well as by the Priest. See Introduction, “Eucharistic Rites.”

⁶Compare Waterland on this passage, c. X. p 688.

⁷[Apost. Const. VIII. c. xiii](#): “Let the Bishop speak thus to the people: Holy things for holy persons. And let the people answer: There is One that is holy; there is one Lord, one Jesus Christ, blessed for ever, to the glory of God

the Father.” The Liturgies of St. James and of Constantinople have nearly the same words: in the Liturgy of St. Mark the answer of the people is: One Father holy, one Son holy, one Spirit holy, in the unity of the Holy Spirit.

⁸[Ps. xxxiv. 9](#). In the *Apostolic Constitutions* the “Sancta Sanctis” and its response are immediately followed by the “Gloria in excelsis,” and the “Hosanna.” Then the Clergy partake, and there follows a direction that this [Psalm xxxiv.](#) is to be said while all the rest are partaking. In the Liturgy of Constantinople there is the direction: “The Choir sings the communion antiphon (τὸ κοινωτικόν) of the day or the saint.”

⁹For μὴ ἐπιτρέπητε, probably an itacism, we should read μὴ ἐπιτρέπεται, as a question, the propriety of the change being indicated by the answer οὐχί. “Is the judgment of this entrusted to the bodily palate? No, but, &c.”

¹⁰ἀντιτύπου σώματος, “the antitypical Body,” not “the antitype of the Body,” which would require τοῦ σώματος. Cf. Cat. xxi. § 1, note 6.

¹¹Cat. xviii. 32: “with what reverence and order you must go from Baptism to the Holy Altar of God.”

¹²Cyril appears to be the earliest authority for thus placing the hands in the form of a Cross. A similar direction is given in the 101st Canon of the Trullan Council (692), and by Joh. Damasc. (*De Fid. Orthod.* iv. 14). *Dict. Chr. Ant. “Communion.”* That the communicant was to receive the Bread in his own hands is clear from the language of Cyril and other Fathers. Cf. Clem. Alex. *Strom.* I. c. i. § 5: “Some after dividing the Eucharist according to custom allow each of the laity himself to take his part.” See the passage of Origen quoted in the next note, and Tertull. *Cor. Mil.* c. iii. “The Sacrament of the Eucharist, which the Lord commanded both (to be taken) at meal-times and by all, we take even in assemblies before dawn, and from the hand of none but the presidents.”

¹³Origen. *Hom. xiii. in Exod.* § 3: “I wish to admonish you by examples from your own religion: ye, who have been accustomed to attend the Sacred Mysteries, know how, when you receive the Body of the Lord, you guard it with all care and reverence, that no little part of it fall down, no portion of the consecrated gift slip away. For you believe yourselves guilty, and rightly so believe, if any part thereof fall through carelessness.”

¹⁴κύπτων, not kneeling, but standing in a bowing posture. Cf. Bingham, XV. c. 5, § 3.

¹⁵*Apost. Const.* VIII. c. 13: “Let the Bishop give the Oblation (προσφοράν) saying, *The Body of Christ*. And let him that receiveth say, *Amen*. And let the Deacon hold the Cup, and when he delivers it say, *The Blood of Christ, the Cup of Life*. And let him that drinketh say, *Amen*.”

¹⁶Cat. xxi. 3, note 8.

¹⁷In the Liturgy of St. James, after all have communicated, “*The Deacons and the People say*: Fill our mouths with Thy praise, O Lord, and fill our lips with joy, that we may sing of Thy glory, of Thy greatness, all the day. *And again*: We render thanks to Thee, Christ our God, that Thou hast accounted us worthy to partake of Thy Body and Blood, &c.”

23. Hold fast these traditions undefiled and, keep yourselves free from offence. Sever not yourselves from the Communion; deprive not yourselves, through the pollution of sins, of these Holy and Spiritual Mysteries. *And the God of peace sanctify you wholly; and may your spirit, and soul, and body be preserved entire without blame at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ*¹:—To whom be glory and honour and might, with the Father and the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and world without end. Amen.

¹[1 Thess. v. 23.](#)