

by our apostle, 2 Thess. ii. which is also prophesied of in the Revelation, and did accordingly come to pass. But because I have insisted on this subject on many other occasions, and some things relating thereunto are under difference and debate among such as are capable of the warning given concerning the apostacy that is in the world, I shall wholly wave the consideration of particulars, about which any such differences may be, and only mention such things as the generality of Christians, at least of Protestants, cannot but acknowledge.

I shall take it for granted at present, that our Lord Jesus Christ did institute and appoint a solemn worship of God to be continued inviolably and unalterably unto the end of the world. And the principal end of his appointing, continuing, or preserving any church on the earth, is the celebration of this worship. For herein alone consisteth that public revenue of glory, which God requires from believers in this world. All other duties of the gospel may be performed by men in their single capacities, if there were no such thing as a church on the earth. And those churches do exceedingly mistake their duty, and every end of their being, which make it not their principal business to take care of the due celebration of that worship, which the Lord Christ hath appointed. 'He was faithful in the whole house of God as was Moses;' Heb. iii. 6. And if the life, being, happiness, and welfare of the church of Israel, consisted in and depended on their remembrance of the law of Moses, which 'God commanded unto him in Horeb, with the statutes and judgments,' Mal. iv. 4. because he was 'faithful in the house of God' as a servant; certainly the being and well-being of the Christian church consists in, and depends upon, that observing and doing of all whatever he hath commanded in the worship of God, as Matt. xxviii. 18. who is faithful as a son, in and over the whole house of God.

Besides, it is acknowledged by all, and we shall, God willing, shew the manner of it in our exposition of the seventh chapter of the Epistle to the Hebrews, that the Lord Christ in and by the gospel, hath altered and abolished all that solemn worship, all those ordinances and institutions, which God himself had set up under the old testament, to continue unto the time of reformation. And hereby he rendered it absolutely