

Chapter 4

He exhorteth them to liue as he taught them: and namely to absteine from al fornication, 9. to loue one another, 11. to meddle only with their owne matters, 12. to behaue themfelues wel toward the Infidels. 13. Touching their freinds departed he comforteth them, shewing that they shal meet againe at the Refurrection, and be with Chrif for euer.

For the rest therefore, Brethren, we desire and beseech you in our Lord IESVS, that as you haue receiued of vs how you ought to walke, and to please God, as also you doe walke, that you abound more. ² For you know what precepts I haue giuen to you by our Lord IESVS. ³ For this is the wil of God, your sanctification: that you abstaine from fornication, ⁴ that euery one may know to possesse his vessel in sanctification and honour: ⁵ not in the passion of lust, as also the Gentils that know not God, ⁶ and that no man ouer-goe, nor circumuent his brother in bufinesse: because our Lord is reuenger of al these things, as we haue fore-told you, and haue testified. ⁷ For God hath not called vs vnto vncleanness, but into sanctification. ⁸ Therefore he that despiseth these things, despiseth ^anot man but God, who also hath giuen his holy Spirit in vs.

⁹ But concerning the charitie of the ^aFraternitie, we haue no need to write to you: For your felues haue learned of God to loue one another. ¹⁰ Yea and you doe it toward al the Brethren in al Macedonia. But we desire you, Brethren, that you ^babound more: ¹¹ and that you employ your endeauour to be quiet, and that you doe your owne bufinesse, and worke with your owne hands, as we haue commanded you: ¹² and that you walke honestly toward them that are without; and need nothing of any man's.

*Io. 13,25.
15, 17.
Heb. 13, 1.*

^a Al Catholike Christians make one Fraternitie or Brotherhood.

^b Christian men ought to proceed and profit continually in good workes and iustification.

¹³ And we wil not haue you ignorant, Brethren, concerning them that ^dfleep, that you be not forrowful, as also others that haue no hope. ¹⁴ For if we beleue that IESVS died and rose againe, so also God them that haue slept by IESVS wil bring with him. ¹⁵ For this we say to you in the word of our Lord, that ^awe which liue, which are remaining in the aduent of our Lord, shal not preuent them that haue slept. ¹⁶ For our Lord himself in commandement, and in the voice of an Archangel, & in the trompet of God wil descend from heauen: and the dead that are in Christ, shal rise againe first. ¹⁷ Then we that liue, that are left, withal shal be taken vp with them in the clouds to meet Christ, into the aire, and so alwaies we shal be with our Lord. ¹⁸ Therefore comfort ye one another in these words.

1. Cor. 15, 23.
Mt. 24, 31.
1. Cor. 13, 52.

ANNOTATIONS

⁸ Not man but God.) He that despiseth the Churches or her lawful Pastours precepts, offendeth no lesse then if he contemned God's expresse commandements. For they be of the Holy Ghost, and are not to be counted among the commandements of men only.

The precepts of the Church.

¹³ Sleep.) Some Heretikes peruerfly inferred of this that the foules did sleep til the day of iudgement: where it is meant of the bodies only.

^a He speaketh in the person of those that shal be alie when our Sauour returneth to iudgement.