

Chapter 4

That according as fo glorious a minifterie requireth, he liueth and preacheth fincerely, 7. the which glorie his Aduerfaries can not count vaine, confidering his perfecutions: becaufe perfecution is to God's glorie, and to our humilitie and hope, and meritorious of increafe of grace in this life, and of moft glorious bodies and foules afterward.

Therfore hauing this miniftration; according as we haue obteneid mercie, we faile not, ² but we renounce the feeret things of difhoneftie, not walking in craftines, nor ¹ adulterating the word of God, but in manifeftation of the truth commending our-felues to euerie confcience of men before God. ³ And if our Ghofpel be alfo hid, in them that perifh it is hid, ⁴ in whom the God of this world hath blinded the minds of the infidels, that the illumination of the Ghofpel of the glorie of Chrift, who is the Image of God, might not fhine to them. ⁵ For we preach not our-felues, but IESVS Chrift our Lord: and vs, your feruants by IESVS: ⁶ becaufe God that commanded light to fhine of darkenes, he hath shined in our harts to the illumination of the knowledge of the glorie of God, in the face of Chrift IESVS. ⁷ But we haue this treafure in earthen veffels, that the excellencie may be of the power of God, and not of vs. ⁸ In al things we fuffer tribulation, but are not in diftreffe: we want, but are not deftitute: ⁹ we fuffer perfecution, but are not forfakē: we are caft downe, but we perish not: ¹⁰ alwaies bearing about in our body the mortification of IESVS, that the life alfo of IESVS may be manifefted in our bodies. ¹¹ For we that liue are alwaies deliuered vnto death for IESVS: that the life alfo of IESVS may be manifefted in our mortal flefh. ¹² Death thē worketh in vs, but life in you. ¹³ And hauing the fame fpirit of faith, as it is written: *I beleueed, for the which caufe I haue fpoken*, we alfo beleuee, for the which caufe we fpeake alfo: ¹⁴ knowing that he which raifed vp IESVS, wil raife vp vs alfo with IESVS and fet vs with

aporiatur
See *S. Amb.*
Theoph.

Pf. 115, 10.

you. ¹⁵ For al things are for you: that the grace abound-
 ing by many in giuing of thanks, may abound vnto the
corrumpatur glorie of God. ¹⁶ For which caufe we faile not: but al-
 though that our man which is without, corrupt: yet
 that which is within, is renewed from day to day. ¹⁷ For
κατεργάζεται that our tribulation which presently is momentarie &
 light, ^a) worketh aboue meafure exceedingly an eternal
 weight of glorie in vs, ¹⁸ we not confidering the things
 that are feen, but that are not feen. For the things that
 be feen, are temporal: but thofe that be not feen, are
 eternal.

ANNOTATIONS

See *Ire. li. 1. c. 1.*

2 Adulterating.) He giueth often warning of falfe Teach-
 ers, whofe fpecial and proper ftudie is to falfifie and adulterate
 by deceitful conftructions, interpretations, and applications, the
 word of God: hauing no other end but to make their aduantage of
 the Scriptures, and to gaine glorie and eftimation among the finful
 and fimple, by new deuifed expofitions. Wherin the Proteftants
 doe excel the ancient Heretikes, none euer more impurely hand-
 ling the word of God then they doe. Origen calleth fuch *Scryp-
 turarum fures & adulteros*, theeues and adulterers of the Scrip-
 tures. S. Cyprian (*de vnit. Ec. nu. 7.*) calleth them, corrupters
 of the Ghofpel, falfe interpreters, artificers and crafts-mafters in
 corrupting the truth. On the other fide, for fpecial reuerence and
 finceritie of dealing in thofe matters, the Fathers and al Catholike
 Preachers or Exprofitours were of old called according to S. Paules
 words to Timothee, *recte tractantes verbum Dei*, right handlers
 of the word of God.

Heretikes cor-
 rupters of God's
 word; Catholike
 Doctours, right
 handlers thereof.

in 2. ad. Rom.

2. Tim. 2.

17 Worketh.) The temporal and short tribulations which
 we patiently and willingly fuffer for Chrif, doe winne vs eu-
 erlafting ioy and glorie. And it is here to be noted againft the
 Heretikes, that tribulations doe worke or caufe the faid faluation,
 which they deny to be giuen for fuch things, but for or by faith
 only. S. Auguftin maketh fuch tribulations for Chrif fo much
 the meritorious caufe of euerlafting life and reft, that he faith it
 is falable and bought thereby. And it is written *Sap. 10. God
 rendreth or repaieth to iuft men the hire of their labours.*

Tribulation meri-
 torious of glorie.

Aug. in Pf. 93.
prope finem.

^a The English Bible 1577 doth falſely tranſlate, *prepareth*.