

Chapter 6

That he helpeth with his exhortations, and in al things behaueth himself as becommeth a Minister of God. 11. Which he speaketh fo openly, because his hart is open vnto them: exhorting them to be likewise open-harted towards him, 14. and to auoid those infidels.

If. 49, 8. **A**nd we ¹helping doe exhort, that you receiue not the ²grace of God in vaine. (2 For he faith: *in time accepted haue I heard thee; and in the day of faluation haue I holpen thee.* Behold, now is the time acceptable: behold now the day of faluation.) ³To no man giuing offence, that our minifterie be not blamed: ⁴but in al things let vs exhibit our felues as the Ministers of God, in much patience, in tribulations, in necessities, in distreffes, ⁵in ftripes, in prifons, in feditions, in labours, ⁶in watchings, in fastings, ⁶in chaftitie, in knowledge, in longanimitie, in fweetnes, in the Holy Ghoft, in charitie not feined, ⁷in the word of truth, in the vertue of God; by the armour of iuftice on the right hand and on the left, ⁸by honour and difhonour, by infamie and good fame: as feducers, and true: as they that are vnknown, and known: ⁹as dying, and behold we liue: as chaftened, & not killed: ¹⁰as forrowful, but alwaies reioycing: as needie, but enriching many: as ^ahauing nothing, and poffefsing al things.

¹¹Our mouth is open to you, ô Corinthians, our hart is dilated. ¹²You are not ftraitned in vs: but in your owne bowels you are ftraitned. ¹³But hauing the fame reward (I fpeake as to my owne children) be you alfo dilated. ¹⁴^bBeare not the yoke with infidels. For what participation hath iuftice with iniquitie? or ¹what focietie is there between light and darkenes? ¹⁵And what agreement with Chrift and Belial? or what part hath

^a S. Auguftin (*in Pf. 113.*) gathereth hereby, that the Apoftles did vow pouertie.

^b It is not lawful for Catholikes to marrie with Heretikes or Infidels. See *S. Hierom. cont Iouinian. li. 1. Conc. Laod. c. 10.* and *31.*

the faithful with the infidel? ¹⁶ And what agreement hath the Temple of God with the Idols? For you are the Temple of the liuing God: as God faith: *That I wil dwel, and walke in them, and wil be their God: and they shal be my people.* ¹⁷ For the which cause, *Goe out of the middes of them, and separate your felues,* faith our Lord, *And touch not the vncleane: and I wil receiue you.* ¹⁸ *And I wil be a Father to you: and you shal be my fonnes & daughters, faith our Lord omnipotent.*

Leu. 26, 11.
Ej. 52, 11.
Hier. 31, 1.

ANNOTATIONS

- 1 Helping.) For that he declared before the Minifters of the new Teftament to be Chriftes Deputies, and that when they preach or doe any function, God as it were fpeaketh or doeth it by them, he boldly now faith, *Helping therefore:* that is to fay, ioyning or working together with God, we doe exhort.
- συνεργοῦντες 1 Grace in vaine.) The grace of God worketh not in man againft his wil, nor forceth any thing without his acceptation and content: and therefore it lieth in man's wil to fruftrate or to follow the motion of God, as this text plainly proueth.
- 5 In watching.) When in the middes of many miferies and perfecutions, the Apoftles yet of their owne accord added and required voluntarie vigils, faftings, and chaftitie, we may wel perceiue thefe workes to be wonderful grateful to God, and fpecially needful in the Clergie.
- 14 What focietie.) Generally here is forbidden conuerfation and dealing with al Infidels, and confequently with Heretikes; but fpecially in praiers, or meeting at their Schifmatical Seruice, preaching, or other diuine office whatfoeuer. Which the Apoftle here vttereth in more particular and different termes, that Chriftian folke may take the better heed of it. No focietie (faith he) nor fellowship, no participation nor agreement, no content between light and darknes, Chrift and Baal, the Temple of God and the Temple of Idols: al feruice, as pretended worship of God fet vp by Heretikes or Schifmatikes, being nothing els but Seruice of Baal and plaine Idolatrie, and their conuenticles nothing but confpirations againft Chrift. From fuch therefore fpecially we muft feuer our felues alwaies in hart and mind, and, touching any act of religion, in body alfo, according as the children of Ifrael were commanded by God to feparate themfelues from the Schifmatikes Core, Dathan, & Abiron, and their tabernacles, by thefe words:
- Num. 16, 26.* *Depart from the tabernacles of the impious men, and touch ye not thofe things which pertaine to them, left you be enwrapped in their finnes.*
- God's Minifters are Coadiutours.
 God's grace forceth no man againft his wil.
 Voluntarie penance.
 Not to communicate with Heretikes in any actes of religion.