

boyde, he was compelled openly to confesse, that there was some man present at supper, which disturbed and letted all his doings. So that a man euen in the Martyrs of these our dayes, can not lacke the miracles of true faith, if miracles were now to be desired.

As concerning y^e workes and booke of Tyndall, which extend to a great number, thou wast to be before (louyng reader) howe the Winter hereof minded by the Lordes leaue, to collect them all in one Volume together, and put them out in print. wherfore it shall not greatly at this time be needfull to make any feuerall rehearsal of them.

And as touching his translation of the new Testament, because his enemies did so much carpe at it, pretending it to be full of heresies, to answer thereto to their slanderous tongues and tieng lippes, thou shalt heare and vnderstand, what faithfull dealing, and sincere conscience he vied in the same, by the testimonie of an allegation of his owne wordes, written in his Epistle to Iohn Frith as followeth: I call God to record against the day we shall appeare before our Lord Iesus, to geue a reckoning of our doings, y^e I neuer altered one sillable of Gods word against my conscience, nor would do this day, if all that is in earth, whether it be honour, pleasure, or riches might be geue me, &c.

And as ye haue heard Tyndals owne wordes thus protesting for himselfe: now let vs heare likewise the faithfull testimonie of Iohn Frith, for Tyndall his deare companion and brother, thus declaring in his answer to mayster More, as followeth.

The testimony of Iohn Frith in his booke of the Sacrament concerning William Tyndall.

And Tyndall I trust liued, well content with suche a poore & poflesse life, as God gaue his soune Christ, and his faithfull Ministers in this world, which is not sure of so many mites, as ye be yearely of poundes, although I am sure that for his learning and iudgement in Scripture, he were more worthy to be promoted, then all the Bishops in Englande. I receaued a letter from him, which was written since Christmas, wherein among other matters he writeth thus: I call God to record against the daye wee shall appeare before our Lord Iesus to geue a reckoning of our doings, that I neuer altered one sillable of Gods word against my conscience, nor would do this day, if all that is in earth, whether it be honour, pleasure, or riches, might be geuen me.

Moreover, I take God to witness to my conscience, that I desire of God to my selfe in this world, no more then that without which I can not keepe his lawes, &c. Iudge Christian Reader whether these wordes be not spoken of a faithfull cleare innocent hart. And as for his behauiour, is such, that I am sure no man can reprove him of any sinne, howbeit, no man is innocent before God, which beholdeth the hart. & his much out of Frith.

And thus being about to conclude and finish the wyth the life and story of William Tyndall, it shall be requisite now that the Reader do heare some thing likewise of his supplication made to the King, and nobles of the Realme, as they are yet extant in his workes to be seene, and woorthy in all ages to be marked, the tenour whereof teneth to this effect as followeth.

Tyndals supplications to the King, Nobles, and subiects of England.

I beseech the Kings most noble grace, well to consider all the wayes, by the whiche the Cardinal, and oure holy Bishops haue led hym since he was first King, and to seee wherunto all the pride, pompe, and vaine boast of y^e Cardinal is come, and how God hath refused hym and oure Prelates in all their wises. We hauing nothing to do at all, haue medled yett with all matters, and haue spent for oure Prelates causes, more then all Christendome, euen vnto the vtter beggering of our selues, and haue gotten nothing but rebuke and hate among all nations, & a mocke and a scoone of them, whom we haue most botpen. For the Frenchmen (as the saying is) of late dayes made a play, or a disguising at Paris, in whiche the Emperour daunted with the hope, and the french King, and werryed them: the King of England sitting on a hye bench, and looking on. And when it was asked why he daunted not, it was answered, that he sat there, but to paye the ministers their wages. As who should say, we payd for all mens dauning. We monied the Emperour openly, and gaue y^e french King double and treble secretly: and to the hope also. Yea and though Ferdinandus had money sent openly to blind the world withall, yet the saying is through all Dutchland that we sent money to the King of Spaine, &c.

Furthermore, I beseech his grace also to haue mercy of his owne soule, and not to suffer Christ and his holy Testament to be persecuted vnder his name any longer: that the sword of the wrath of God may be put by agayne, which for that cause, no doubt, is most chiefly drawne.

Thirdly, my petition is to his grace, to haue compassion on his poore subiects, that the Realme vtterly perishe not with the wicked counsaile of our pestiferous Prelates. For if his grace, which is but a man, should die, the Lords and commons not knowing who hath most right to enioy the crowne, the realme could not but stand in great daunger.

My fourth sute and exhortation is to all the Lords temporall of the realme, that they come and fall before y^e Kings grace, and humbly desire his Maiestie, to suffer it to be tried, who of right ought to succede: And if he or these sayle, who next, and who third. And let it be proclaimed openly: and let all the Lords temporall be sworn therto, and all y^e knights and squires and gentlmen, and the commons about xviii. yeares old, that there be no strife for the succession. If they trie it by the sword, I promise them, I see no other likelyhode but it will cost the realme of England, &c.

Further, of all the subiects of England this I craue: that they repent, for the cause of euill rulers is the sinne of the subiects as testifieth the Scripture. And the cause of false preachers is, that the people haue no loue vnto the truth, sayth Paule in the 2. Chapter of the 2. Epistle to the Thessalonians. we be all sinners an hundred times greater then all that we suffer. Let vs therefore eche forgiue o^rther, remembering the greater sinners, the more welcome if we repent according to the similitude of the riotous son, Luk. xv. For Christ died for sinners and is their Saviour, and his blood their treasure to pay for their sinnes. He is that sated calfe which is faine to make them good chaire withall, if they will repent and come to their father againe: and his merites is the godly payment to couer the naked deformities of their sinnes.

Finally, if the persecution of the Kings grace and of o^rther temporall persons conspiring with the spiritualitie, be of ignorance, I doubt not but that their eyes shall be opened shortly, and they shall see & repent, and God shall shew them mercy. But if it be of a set malice against the truth, and of a grounded hate against the law of God, by the reason of a full consent they haue to sinne and to walke in their old wayes of ignorance, wherunto being now past all repentance, they haue vtterly precluded themselves, to followe with full lust without burde or snaffle, which is the sinne against the holy Ghost: then ye shall see euen shortly, that God shall turne the point of the sword wherewith they now shed Christs blood, homeward to shed theyr owne againe, after all the examples of the Bible.

These things thus discoursed pertainyng to the story and doings of Tyndall, finally it remaineth to intert certayne of his priuate letters and epistles, whereof among diuers order which haue not come to our hands, two speciall he wrote to Iohn Frith, one properly vnder his owne name, another vnder the name of Iacob, but in very dede was written and deliuered to Iohn Frith, being prisoner then in the Tower, as ye shall further vnderstand by the sequale hereafter. The copie and tenour of the Epistles heere followeth.

A letter sent from Tyndall, vnto Mayster Frith being in the Tower.

THE grace and peace of God our Father, and of Iesus Christ our Lord be with you, Amen. Dearly beloved brother Iohn, I haue heard say, how the hypocrites now that they haue overcome that great busines which letted them, or at the least way, haue brought it at a stay, they returne to their olde nature againe. The will of God be fulfilled, and that which he hath ordeyned to be ere the world was made, that come, and his glory raigne ouer all.

Dearly beloved, how euer the matter be, commit your selfe wholly and onely vnto your most louyng Father, and most kynde Lorde, and feare not men that threate, nor trust men that speake faire: but trust him that is true of promise, and able to make hys word good. Your cause is Christs Gossell, alight that must be fed with the blood of fayth. The lampe must be dressed and snuffed dayly, and that oyle poured in euery euening and morning, that the light go not out. Though we be sinners, yet is the cause right. If when we be buffered for well doing, we suffer patiently and endure, that is acceptable to God: for to that end we are called. For Christ also suffered for vs, leauing vs an example that wee should follow his steps, who did no sin. Herby haue we perceiued loue, that he layd downe his life for vs: therefore we ought also to lay downe our liues for the brethren. Reioyce and be glad, for great is your reward in heauen. For we suffer with him that we may also be glorified with him: who shall change our vile body, that

W. Tyndals workes looked for to be all set out in one volume.

The faithfull dealing of Tyndall in translating the new testament.

The testimony of Iohn Frith, for Tyndall.

The wordes of Tyndall written to Iohn Frith.

Ex lib. Tind. praxic. Prælatorum.

Tyndals supplicatio to the king and states of England.

The king of England payes for all.

The second petition of Tyndall.

The third petition of Tyndall.

The 4. petition of Tyndall. Limitation of succession to the Crowne. I pray God this be not a prophetic agaynst England. The 5. petition of Tyndall.

A letter of Tyndall to M. Frith.

Pet. 2.

1. Iohn. 3.

Math. 5. Rom. 8. Phil. 3.