16 THE IMITATION OF CHRIST

## CHAPTER IX

## Obedience and Subjection

IT is a very great thing to stand in obedience, to live under a superior, and not be at our own disposal.

It is much more secure to be in a state of subjection than in authority.

Many are under obedience, more out of necessity than for the love of God; and such as these are in pain, and easily repine.

Nor will they gain freedom of mind, unless they submit themselves, with their whole heart, for God's sake.

Run here or there, thou wilt find no rest, but in an humble subjection under the government of a superior.

The imagination and changing of places has deceived many.

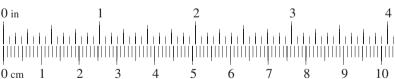
2. It is true, everyone is desirous of acting according to his own liking, and is more inclined to such as are of his own mind.

But if God be amongst us, we must sometimes give up our own opinion for the sake of peace.

Who is so wise as to be able fully to know all things?

Therefore trust not too much to thine own thoughts, but be willing also to hear the sentiments of others.





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