

**THE CAUSES, EVILS, AND CURES  
OF HEART AND CHURCH  
DIVISIONS. EXTRACTED FROM  
THE WORKS OF BURROUGHS  
AND BAXTERA**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649743568

The Causes, Evils, and Cures of Heart and Church Divisions. Extracted from the Works of Burroughs and Baxtera by Francis Asbury & Jeremiah Burroughs & Richard Baxter

Except for use in any review, the reproduction or utilisation of this work in whole or in part in any form by any electronic, mechanical or other means, now known or hereafter invented, including xerography, photocopying and recording, or in any information storage or retrieval system, is forbidden without the permission of the publisher, Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd, PO Box 1576 Collingwood, Victoria 3066 Australia.

All rights reserved.

Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd.  
Cover @ 2017

This book is sold subject to the condition that it shall not, by way of trade or otherwise, be lent, re-sold, hired out, or otherwise circulated without the publisher's prior consent in any form or binding or cover other than that in which it is published and without a similar condition including this condition being imposed on the subsequent purchaser.

[www.triestepublishing.com](http://www.triestepublishing.com)

**FRANCIS ASBURY & JEREMIAH BURROUGHS & RICHARD BAXTER**

**THE CAUSES, EVILS, AND CURES  
OF HEART AND CHURCH  
DIVISIONS. EXTRACTED FROM  
THE WORKS OF BURROUGHS  
AND BAXTERA**



THE  
CAUSES, EVILS, AND CURES,  
OF  
HEART AND CHURCH  
DIVISIONS.

EXTRACTED FROM THE WORKS OF BURROUGHS  
AND BAXTER, *known*

BY FRANCIS ASBURY,  
ONE OF THE BISHOPS OF THE METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH.

Seek peace and *pursue* it.—PSALM XXXIV. 14.

New-York:  
PUBLISHED BY LANE & SCOTT,  
200 Mulberry-street.  
JOSEPH LONGKING, PRINTER  
1849.

MV 9 Ja 39  
Recd Mesa 3 May 68

## ADVERTISEMENT.

---

OUR Discipline recommends (Part i, ch. iv, § 16) "a serious perusal of the 'Causes, Evils, and Cures of Heart and Church Divisions.'"

The work has long been out of print, so that the recommendation could not be complied with.

A new edition is now furnished at a low price, with a view to its general circulation. Recent

events have tended, perhaps, to weaken the spirit of union among us—it may be well for us

to scrutinize our hearts and lives more closely.

"If we are united, what can stand before us?

If we divide, we shall destroy ourselves, the work of God, and the souls of our people."

J. M'CLINTOCK.

January 1, 1849.

# C O N T E N T S.

---

	Page
ADDRESS TO THE CHURCH, BY BISHOP ASBURY.	ix

## PART I.

### THE CAUSES OF DIVISIONS.

#### I. DISTEMPERS THAT DIVIDE.

1. Pride.....	7
2. Self-love .....	14
3. Envy.....	21
4. Passion.....	25
5. Rigidness .....	29
6. Rashness .....	31
7. Wilfulness .....	33
8. Inconstancy .....	35
9. Jealousy .....	37
10. Contention .....	38

#### II. PRACTICES THAT DIVIDE.

1. Whispering .....	39
2. Needless disputes .....	40
3. Meddling .....	47
4. Slander.....	48
5. Respect of persons.....	52
6. Partial disagreements.....	54
7. Using the wicked against the good.....	56
8. Revenge.....	57

## PART II.

## THE EVILS OF DIVISIONS.

## I. THE GOOD THEY HINDER.

	Page
1. They hinder quiet and comfort of spirit.....	58
2. " freedom of spirit.....	61
3. " sweetness of communion.....	61
4. " time.....	63
5. " prayers.....	64
6. " use of our gifts.....	65
7. " our graces.....	67

## II. THE SIN THEY CAUSE.

1. They violate the law of love.....	72
2. They are against the prayer of Christ.....	73
3. They dishonour Christ.....	74
4. They grieve the Spirit of God.....	77
5. They offend our brethren.....	78
6. They stir up corruption.....	80
7. They harden in sin.....	82
8. They keep others from God's ways.....	83

## PART III.

## THE CURES OF DIVISIONS.

## I. JOINING PRINCIPLES.

1. Peace and love will reconcile differences.....	92
2. Strife will not gain what love can.....	93
3. Better to do good than receive it.....	95
4. Other men's good is ours as well as theirs.....	96



CONTENTS.

vii

	Page
5. Our good is more in the public than ourselves..	98
6. The golden rule .....	98
7. To yield is more honourable than to overcome.	100

II. CONSIDERATIONS.

1. Consider the love of God.....	103
2. Consider the fellowship of men.....	105
3. Consider the differences of men.....	112
4. Consider the will of God—peace .....	116
5. Consider the presence of God and Christ .....	118
6. Consider your own weakness and mortality....	119
7. Consider the final account.....	120

III. DIRECTIONS.

1. General.....	121
2. Observe the workings of spiritual pride.....	127
3. Do not overvalue gifts or professions.....	137
4. Do not affect eminence of holiness.....	140
5. Search the Scriptures as to terms of union and communion.....	141
6. Beware of being governed by your passions....	167

DIRECTIONS TO PASTORS BOTH TO PREVENT AND HEAL DIVISIONS.....	202
--	-----

TO  
THE MINISTERS AND MEMBERS  
OF THE  
METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH.

DEAR BRETHREN,—In the course of my reading, some years ago, I met with an old book, written by a worthy pastor in the church, Mr. Jeremiah Burroughs, on *Heart Divisions, the Evil of our Times*. Feeling at that time the pain of a partial separation in spirit and practice from some who were as my brethren and sons in the gospel, that book proved as a balm and a blessing to my soul. I saw so clearly the evil consequences of a division, and how good and pleasant a thing it is for brethren to dwell together in unity, that I began to abridge my obsolete, but valuable book, and earnestly wished, prayed, and strove, for unanimity.

Soon after, I met with another old book, entitled *The Cure of Church Divisions*; written by that venerable servant of God, the John

Wesley of his day, in wisdom, affection, zeal, and a pacific spirit; I mean Mr. Richard Baxter, of precious memory. Being highly pleased with his evangelical sentiments, I concluded to make an extract from both, not doubting but it might be of great service to the church of Christ.

And now I recommend it to all ministers of the gospel, and professing Christians of every denomination, into whose hands it may come, beseeching them to read it carefully, and with much prayer, that they may cultivate a spirit of unity and brotherly love.

I remain, dear brethren, your servant for Christ's sake,

FRANCIS ASBURY.