

**A REPLY TO THE LECTURES OF THE REV.
CHARLES STOVEL ON CHRISTIAN
DISCIPLESHIP AND BAPTISM, AND
TO THE STRICTURES OF THE REV. DR.
WARDLAW, IN AN APPENDIX TO HIS
DISSERTATION ON INFANT BAPTISM**

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A reply to the lectures of the Rev. Charles Stovel on Christian discipleship and baptism, and to the strictures of the Rev. Dr. Wardlaw, in an appendix to his dissertation on infant baptism by Robert Halley

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ROBERT HALLEY

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REPLY TO REV. C. STOVEL AND REV. DR. WARDLAW.

By ROBERT HALLEY, D.D.

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BAPTISM, THE DESIGNATION OF THE CATECHUMENS, NOT THE
SYMBOL OF THE MEMBERS, OF THE CHRISTIAN CHURCH.

A REPLY

TO THE

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ADVERTISEMENT.

It may be naturally expected that the following work should contain some formal defence of the principle implied in its title. That title has, however, been selected to intimate the principle to which the several arguments of the work may be referred, rather than the manner in which its reasoning is conducted. In connexion with every apostolic church, was a class of persons under instruction and training for its fellowship. This is admitted, at least by implication, both by Mr. Stovel and by Dr. Wardlaw. That the persons under instruction were baptized at the commencement of their preparatory discipline, and that the delay of baptism until its conclusion, was an early departure from the apostolic practice, arising out of the prevalent opinion of the unpardonable criminality of sin committed after baptism, can, I think, be established on good and sufficient evidence. In pursuing the inquiry I have undertaken, respecting baptism and the Lord's

supper, it will be my duty to adduce that evidence, as showing the connexion between the two ordinances. As, however, I desire to free the inquiry from all personal considerations, I previously offer the following Reply to so much of the Lectures of Mr. Stovel, and Strictures of Dr. Wardlaw, as seems to impugn the principle which I undertake to defend. With the greatest respect for the learning and theological attainments of one of my opponents, and for the Christian character of them both, I commend this Reply to the candid consideration of those who feel any interest in the subject on which it treats.

ROBT. HALLEY.

*Plymouth Grove, Manchester,
May 1st, 1847.*

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