

Samuel Rutherford's

The Due Right of Presbyteries:

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The Original Title:

The Due Right of Presbyteries:

or,

A Peaceable Plea for the Government of the Church of Scotland

Wherein is examined:

1. *The Way of the Churches of Christ in New England in brotherly equality and independency, or coordination without subjection of one church to another.*¹
2. Their *Apology*² for the said government and their *Answers to 32 Questions* are considered.
3. A treatise for a church-covenant is discussed.³
4. The arguments of Mr. Robinson in his *Justification of Separation*⁴ are discovered.
5. His treatise called, *The People's Plea for the Exercise of Prophecy*⁵ is tried.
6. Diverse late arguments against presbyterial government and the power of synods are discussed; the power of the prince in matters ecclesiastical is modestly considered and diverse incident controversies resolved.

¹ By John Cotton (London, 1645)

² Richard Mather, *An Apology of the Churches in New England for Church-Covenant*

³ Richard Mather and John Davvenport, *Church Government and Church-Covenant Discussed* (London, 1643)

⁴ John Robinson, 1610

⁵ 1618

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⁶ Page numbering is non-continuous with Part 1.

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⁷ This is a simplified table of contents. If you would like to see the original table of contents, feel free to peruse the [EEBO-TCP edition](#).

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⁸ The page numbering is not continuous with Part 1 and starts with p. 185. Rutherford's method is to refute the various New England divines (including Separatists, Independents, and the two forms of Puritan Congregationalism) according to the organization of their books (chiefly John Robinson and John Cotton), which layout may appear disorganized to the reader. The chapter and section number heading in the Rutherford's work in Part 2 refer to the chapter and section numbers of his opponents works.

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⁹ [Rutherford's argument is that Christ could not have given the Keys to every believer in Matt 16:18 as then believers both in and out of the Church would have power of ruling the Church, which is absurd.]

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¹⁰ [Officers that execute judicial sentences.]

¹¹ [That is, of a diocese, which was the geographical territory under a bishop in the Church of England.]

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¹² [as opposed to only the infants of believers]

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The End