

# Table of Contents

<b>1</b>	<b>Introduction</b> .....	17
<b>2</b>	<b>A Case Against Claiming the Fathers? – William Perkins’s <i>Probleme of the Forged Catholicisme, or Universalitie of the Romish Religion (1604; 1631)</i></b> .....	31
	2.1 Falsifying the Roman Catholic Claim of Tradition .....	31
	2.2 Perkins’s Concept of the Fathers .....	37
	2.2.1 Terminological and Chronological Concept.....	37
	2.2.2 Pseudepigraphy and the Historical Conditionality of Patristic Literature .....	44
	2.3 The Primacy of the Scriptures and the Authority of the Fathers .....	53
<b>3</b>	<b>The Appeal to the Fathers and Patristic Learning</b> .....	65
	3.1 Claiming Tradition: The Church Fathers and the Concept of <i>Auctoritas Patrum</i> from the Early Church to the Eve of the Reformation.....	65
	3.2 Between <i>ad fontes</i> and <i>sola scriptura</i> : The Use of Patristic Sources by the Reformers and the Church of England.....	76
	3.2.1 Luther and Calvin .....	76
	3.2.2 The Church of England: English Reformers and Puritan Nonconformists.....	84
	3.3 Accessing the Fathers: Institutions and Resources of Puritan Learning .....	95
	3.3.1 Puritan Education and Ministerial Training at Trinity, Emmanuel and Harvard College.....	95
	3.3.2 Library Resources .....	106

3.3.3	Patristic Evidence in Commonplace Books .....	117
3.3.3.1	William Perkins, John Foxe and the Commonplace Book Tradition .....	117
3.3.3.2	Commonplace Books in Seventeenth-Century New England .....	124
3.3.3.3	Cotton Mather’s “Quotidiana,” “Collections” and “Quotations” .....	132
<b>4</b>	<b>Exegesis in Theory and Practice .....</b>	<b>147</b>
4.1	Instruments of Exegesis .....	147
4.1.1	Principles of Puritan Hermeneutics .....	147
4.1.2	The Biblical Commentary: Cotton Mather’s “Biblia Americana” (1693-1728).....	154
4.1.2.1	The “Biblia Americana” in Context: Contemporary Biblical Scholarship and the Church Fathers.....	154
4.1.2.2	The Hermeneutics of “Biblia Americana” .....	163
4.1.2.3	“Far from Destroying Each Other”: The Letter/Spirit Dichotomy .....	171
4.1.2.4	“In the Beginning” Were the Fathers: The “Biblia Americana”’s Spiritual Reading of Genesis 1:1 .....	177
4.1.2.5	“All Christian Antiquity Consents”: The “Biblia Americana”’s Appropriation of Patristic Sources .....	191
4.1.3	The Saturday Lecture at Harvard College: John Leverett’s “Expositions of Scripture” (1708-1724).....	199
4.2	Homiletics and Preaching .....	214
4.2.1	The Puritan Plain Style Ideal .....	214
4.2.2	Puritan Homiletics: William Perkins’s <i>The Arte of Prophesying</i> (1592; 1606) ...	220
4.2.2.1	The Early Church as Frame of Reference: Typological Dimensions of the Church Fathers and the Seven Ecumenical Councils .....	220
4.2.2.2	Formal Homiletics and the Ideal Preacher .....	227
4.2.2.3	Material Homiletics .....	238

4.2.3	Puritan Preaching.....	245
4.2.3.2	Regular Sunday Sermons and Weekday Lectures..	245
4.2.3.2	Political Homilies: Puritan Election Sermons.....	254
4.2.3.2.1	<i>Institutional Setting and Communal Dimension</i> .....	254
4.2.3.2.2	<i>Coercive Power for the Magistrates: Thomas Shepard Jr.'s Eye-Salve (1672)</i> .....	262
4.2.3.2.3	<i>"Where Order Prevailes, Beauty Shines Forth": William Hubbard's Use of Patristic Motifs in The Happiness of a People (1676)</i> .....	269
<b>5</b>	<b>Ecclesiology</b> .....	<b>285</b>
5.1	Initiation into the "Visible Church": Baptism and Church Membership .....	285
5.1.1	Claiming the Fathers against " <i>Donatists, Anabaptists, Brownists, Schismatics</i> " .....	285
5.1.2	"Antiquity for Infant-Baptism"? William Perkins, John Smyth and Richard Baxter on a Practice Unwarranted by the Scriptures .....	300
5.1.3	New England Congregationalism and the Half-Way Covenant .....	310
5.1.3.1	Early Perspectives on Church Membership .....	310
5.1.3.2	The Anti-Synodicals' Advocacy of "Primitive Strictness" .....	317
5.1.3.3	Defending the Synod: "As the Major Part May Erre, So May the Minor Also" .....	327
5.1.3.4	From Opposition to Advocacy: The Case of Increase Mather .....	339
5.2	The Constitution, Institutional Structure and Functions of the "Visible Church".....	345
5.2.1	Congregational Church Polity .....	345
5.2.1.1	Early Church Concepts of Ecclesiastical Authority in Congregationalism .....	345
5.2.1.2	John Cotton's Use of the Ante-Nicene Church in <i>The Way of Congregational Churches Cleared (1647)</i> .....	354

5.2.2	Church Office and the Calling to the Ministry .....	362
5.2.2.1	The Primacy of Election (“Χειροτονία”) .....	362
5.2.2.2	Ordination (“Χειροθεσία”) .....	371
5.2.3	Church Discipline .....	382
5.2.3.1	Dimensions of Church Discipline .....	382
5.1.3.2	Taking Disciplinary Action: Censuring, Exclusion from the Lord’s Supper, Excommunication and Restoration of Penitents ....	387
<b>6</b>	<b>Conclusion</b> .....	<b>399</b>
	<b>Bibliography</b> .....	<b>405</b>
	Primary Works .....	405
	Secondary Works .....	425
	<b>General Index</b> .....	<b>443</b>