

same, established by a generall Court & sufficiently published : or, in case of the defecte of a Lawe in any particular case, by the worde of God, and in capitall cases, or in cases concerninge dismembriage or Banishment, accordinge to that worde, to be Iudged by the Generall Court.

By these it appeares, that the Officers of this Bodye politick haue a Rule to walke by, in all their administrations, which Rule is the Worde of God, & such conclusions & deductions, as are, or shalbe, regularly drawne from thence.

All Commonwealthes haue had some principles, or fundamentalls, from which they haue framed deductions to particular cases, as occasion hath required. And though no Commonwealthe euer had, or can haue, a particular positive Rule, to dispence power, or Iustice by in every single case, yet where the fundamentalls, or generall Rule holde forth such directiō, as no great damage or injurye can befall, either the whol, or any particular parte, by any uniuert sentence, or disorderlye proceedinge, without manifest breache of suche generall Rule, there the Rule may be required, & so the Governm<sup>t</sup> is regular & not Arbitrarye.

The fundamentalls which God gave to the Commonwealth of Israell, were a sufficient Rule to them, to guide all their Affaires : we haue the same, with all the Additions, explanations & deductions, which haue followed : it is not possible we should want a Rule in any case : if God give wisdom to discern it.

There are some fewe cases onely (beside the Capitalls) wherein the penalty is prescribed : And the Lord could haue done the like in others, if he had so pleased ; but haue appointed Gov<sup>ts</sup> upon earthe, to be his vicegerents, he hath given them those fewe as presidents, to directe them, & to exercise his giftes in them : Deut 17 : 9 : 10 : 11 : In the moste difficult cases, the Iudges in Supreme Auty<sup>e</sup>, were to shewe the sentence of the Lawe : whence 3 : thinges may be observed : 1 : this Sentence was to be declared out of the Lawe established : though not obuious to comon understandinge 2 : this was to be expected in that ordinance : therefore v : 19 : the Kinge was to haue a Copie of the Lawe, & to reade them all the dayes of his life : 3 : Suche a sentence was not ordained to be provided before the Case fell out, but *pro re nata*, when occation required, God promised to be present in his owne Ordinance, to improue suche gifts as he should please to conferre upon suche as he should call to place of Governm<sup>t</sup>. In the Scripture there are some formes of Prayers & of Sermons sett downe : yet no