

priesthood did not always please a Holy God, yet no other class of men, however learned or godly, were permitted to perform their sacred duties.* Thus were the people saved from all confusion in their inquiries for the Church, and for the divinely-ordained men, who, alone, were empowered to offer sacrifices in behalf of the people, and to teach them the way of life.

In the fulness of time, God Himself descended from His throne to His footstool. Here He lived as a man among men. "He came not to destroy, but to fulfil." His mission was to complete the plan of redemption. It was no part of His gracious errand to abrogate His own Church. There never had been, and there never was to be, more than one Church.

"He brought life and immortality to light;" fulfilled prophecy; became the embodiment of all types and figures; put an end to all sacrifices by the sacrifice of Himself. He changed the *seal*, but left the covenant itself untouched. The "*tree*" which He had planted remained, though "the nat-

* Numbers xvi.