

Christianity. It says: We are right; all who differ from us are wrong—v. only are the Church of Christ, there is no visible Church but ours, for none can enter the Church but in our way. All ye great and good men of the past, says that creed, who imagined ye were in Christ, and who lived and died in the faith of Christ; ye pillars of the Church of England, Latimer, Ridley, Cranmer; ye princes of the Presbyterian Church, Calvin, Knox, Chalmers; ye eloquent divines of the Independent Church, Baxter, Howe, Watts; ye noble spirits of the Methodist Church, Wesley, Whitefield, Asbury; ye faithful children of the cross, who pined in inquisitions, and who died for Christ at the martyr's stake; and ye nameless ones who sleep in unremembered graves, the immersionist creed hath denied you the fellowship of the saints! It matters not that ye had faith in Christ, that ye had been converted, that ye were new creatures in Christ Jesus, that ye had been baptized with the Spirit, and that ye had been baptized with water—if ye were not *immersed in water*, all else is vain, ye were not in the visible Church of Christ. Stand ye aside! we only are in the Church, and immersion is the door! Such are the inevitable teachings of the immersionist creed. It is therefore obviously antagonistic to the whole spirit, and scope, and breadth of Christianity, and to the plain teaching of the Bible.

102. Are immersionists as inconsistent and narrow as their creed?

Immersionists are better than their creed. Their creed is opposed to the fellowship of the saints, but they love the brethren in Christ. Their creed is Roman Catholic where it requires the rebaptism of those who would come into their fold from other churches; but they are Protestant, for they say: "No matter—ye are Christians, though ye were never immersed." Their creed, if it be consistent with itself, *must be* "close-communication;" but they love Christians of every name. Their creed excommunicates the seraphic masters of spiritual song, Charles Wesley and Isaac Watts, because they were never immersed; but they have admitted their hymns to church