

For any man, after giving such a solemn pledge to God and His Church, after having accepted the Creeds, and promised to teach the faith as the Church has received it, for any man to deny or throw doubt upon any statement of the Creeds, such as the Virgin birth or the Godhead of Jesus Christ, and His bodily resurrection the third day from the dead, is to break his ordination vow and to use his ministry for a purpose exactly the opposite of that for which it was conferred.

Let the faithful and the world be well assured that, when the teaching given from the Church's pulpit contradicts or conflicts with that given from the altar, the lectern or the prayer desk, something is wrong. The man who stands in it has need to read again his solemn ordination vows, and either to carry them out or retire from a position which, as an honest man, he can no longer occupy.

What the Priesthood Is.

My dear brothers, you who are here assembled, like the Apostles of old on the day of Pentecost, waiting for the gift of the Holy Ghost and power from on high, yours is, indeed, a high, holy, noble calling. To-day you enter into the ranks of those who are the officers of Christ's army; to-day you hear His voice saying: "As the Father hath sent me even so send I you; receive the Holy Ghost for the office and work of a Priest in the Church of God."

"For the office and work of a Priest in the Church of God." Never forget it; that is the purpose for which you are ordained, that is the purpose for which you receive the Holy Ghost, and, so long as you faithfully try to execute that office and work in humble dependence upon His indwelling presence and power, so long will that Divine presence never fail you.

The vows of God are upon you, or will be upon you before you leave this church, vows which pledge and bind