

God. It lies in the nature of love that its objects be homogeneous with the person loving. They must therefore be spiritual persons, and as God's will of love is one, they must have a unity. Experience shows that it is not a multitude in the unity of a race, for in natural conditions the race lacks the necessary unity. This contradiction is resolved in the Christian community which has for its task the Kingdom of God. This community he defines as a universal moral union of men of which the distinguishing mark is reciprocal action from the motive of love. The church is the union of the members for the public worship of God.

It was to establish this kingdom that Christ came. The union in a kingdom and activity in its service are possible only on condition of obedience to him. In it are conveyed all the benefits which flow from his work. Christ is known in the church as that historic personage from whom all our religious advantages, our knowledge of God and the forgiveness of sins, are obtained.

We are thus brought to the Doctrine of Christ. The point of view from which alone we can regard him is that of his vocation as Founder of the Kingdom. When we so regard him we see in him everything which has for us value in the conception of God; everything that is, for which the postulate of God is made, help against the opposing forces of the world. This is the Ritschlian theory of the Godhead of Christ. His Godhead has nothing to do with his nature. He has for us the worth, the value, the interest, of God. This reveals itself in two ways. 1. We see in him perfect love. He is the Revealer of God to man. The mind, purpose, will, of God are manifest in Him. Knowing him we know the Father. 2. And second we find in him every virtue, such as fidelity to his calling, even unto death. In his vocation he manifests a perfect supremacy over the world, patiently enduring its evils as a means of ultimate victory over it. It was in this sense of inward superiority to it that all things were given to Him of His Father. There is no expiatory virtue in his death. It only evinced His divine calling and per-