

But the object of this paper is not to magnify these or any of the bodies which have sprung into being under similar circumstances, and for the accomplishment of special work. My object is not to plead for toleration or for admiration, nor indeed to point out the errancy and the faults of these organizations, albeit these are visible enough and serious enough.

I desire to point out the end which these extraordinary developments may serve to the church as a whole. The revelation, the condemnation, the warning, the admonition and instruction which God may intend them to be to her. Taking the church as the gathering together in organic form of God's people in the world, and as composed of various branches and assemblages or congregations on earth, she is "the church of the living God—the pillar and ground of the truth." She is "the Bride, the Lamb's wife." And to her, as such, is committed the dispensation, in His name, of the provision of the Bread of life to the needy and the perishing. And God has given her every needed power and grace, and when she fails it is through the *weakness and unfaithfulness of her members*. There is no need, there is no room for a new organization. Any other view is based on a mistaken and inadequate conception of the church, and a narrow and unworthy view of christian life and privileges and responsibility. To be a christian is to do all to my utmost ability, to do everything in fulfilment of my love to Christ, my personal devotion to Him who died for me. I need no new vow; I have vowed and sealed my vow for ever, and for all service, even unto death in his Blood. And as a member of His Body I am assured of all grace. His strength will be made perfect in my weakness. Any *new* vow can only be a repetition of my vow to Christ, already taken or, an open acceptance of what was contained in that vow. Any new altar of consecration can only be built of the stones which have been thrown down or dishonoured and weed grown. And if I now build truly, the second altar is the first bedewed with the tears of my penitence.

No member of the Salvation Army has any obligation to go anywhere into the scenes of vice and sin and misery which does not rest upon me as a member of the church of Christ. No man has any call to a higher life, to a more earnest testimony, than he received when he heard the voice of Christ calling him to salvation and service as a follower and servant of the Lord.