

early Christians at once set their faces like flint against polygamy and divorce, and in fact against everything that tended to degrade woman, and at once in accordance with the teachings of Jesus placed her on an equality with man. One of the reproaches continually hurled at the early Christians by their enemies was, that they had placed woman on a standing equal with man. The battle was long and bitter. Did time permit I might show you how the heaven worked. I might tell you how it began to show itself in the legislation of Constantine, Justinian and Charlemagne. I might describe to you the councils of Arles and Treves, where the battle royal on behalf of woman was fought by men of faith. I might recount to you the story of the battle which Christianity fought for the weaker sex among the semi-barbarian tribes of Northern Europe. I might relate to you the almost incredible story that in England, in the reign of Edward 1st, there was a regular form of contract, to be used by a man when desiring to sell his wife. I might tell you the story of Ann Stebbins, who was led to the market place in a halter and delivered to her purchaser by her inhuman husband in 1782. But I shall lightly pass over the harrowing history of the terrible burden under which woman struggled from the day, when she was driven out of a darkening Paradise, until she was found and rescued by the Gospel of Jesus Christ. The emancipation of woman is one of the greatest and grandest triumphs won by the Christian faith. Christianity has purified the morals of woman, emancipated her from the tyranny of barbarous social customs, recognized the true domain of her powers, given her scope for her endowments, and forever rolled away the stone from the social sepulchre in which she was entombed.

NOT ONLY HAS CHRISTIANITY LIBERATED WOMAN, BUT IT HAS  
ABOLISHED HUMAN SLAVERY.

The teachings of Jesus Christ are shot through and through with the principles of human brotherhood. The enunciation of the Golden Rule struck the death knell of slavery. Jesus scattered the seeds of absolute freedom, and equal justice to