

ing of incense in God's Temple, was smitten by Him to whose altars none but His accredited Priests could approach, with the life-long plague of leprosy. "It appertaineth not unto thee, Uzziah, to burn incense unto the Lord, but to the Priests, the sons of Aaron that are consecrated to burn incense." In the earlier dispensations, then, [we have a principle of Church government recognized and enforced, the very opposite of the Congregational system.

Now in asking ourselves whether at the advent of the Christian era this old principle was cast down, and the opposite erected in its stead, there are two or three considerations never to be lost sight of. We should remember that the Church through all eras is essentially the same. There is but one stock, there are many branches. How tersely did Paul remind the Romans of this, when he likened them to the wild olive tree grafted in among the broken branches of the Olive. Each succeeding dispensation, while pertaining to the same Church, was but the developement and expansion of the preceding one. True in the gradation to the new, the law had its perfect fulfilment in our Lord; to this the ancient service was but typical and preparatory, and change passed over the whole. But in that sweeping demolition of rites and ceremonies, all forms, all rites and ceremonies were not abolished. As in the old Church so in the new, there was a form of entrance provided; there was Circumcision in the old, there