

us, and our Church has thought that it is a fit time for us to pronounce our own ratification of our Baptismal Vow. Some people make mistakes about it, and fancy the making the vow for ourselves is the chief point in Confirmation. But this is not the fact. Nothing we do can be so important as what we receive from God, and we have in reality accepted the vow every time we have answered our catechist's question, 'Dost thou not think thou art bound to do and believe as they (our sponsors) promised for thee?' 'Yes, verily; and by God's help so I will.'

Of course the renewing the vow is a deep and anxious matter; and if we do not take it with our whole heart, we can be in no frame of mind to meet the blessing of being sealed by God the Holy Ghost. But we must not fall into the mistake of thinking that the making the vow for ourselves is the great matter. Confirmation is not our confirming our own vow, but God's confirming us in the strength of the Holy Spirit. We are just as much bound by our vow before Confirmation as after it. The difference is that Confirmation gives us more power to keep it, by strengthening us with the sevenfold Seal of God the Holy Ghost.

Therefore, let no young person fancy that he or she goes to Confirmation to release God-