

those who have experienced the blessings of salvation, through faith in Christ, should be instrumental agents of the Holy Spirit in lifting up and saving the world. The institution of the Christian Church is the practical embodiment of this divine thought. But Christians are not to be isolated, independent workers. The Church is not an aggregation of discordant forces moving with lawless energy, without unity of purpose or method. Without organization and order there could be no provision for maintaining the means of grace, religious fellowship, Christian discipline, and aggressive evangelistic work in the world.

A local church has been fitly designated "a congregation of faithful men, in which the pure Word of God is preached and the sacraments are duly administered according to Christ's ordinance." This definition in its essential elements applies to a denomination embracing many congregations. All such Christian societies taken together constitute the visible Church. By the invisible Church is meant all those who are known to God as His saved children. In the New Testament the term "church" frequently means a local society; but the Church of which Christ is declared to be the Head is not any visible organization, but the whole body of true believers, wherever they may be or by whatever name they may be called. The Church should be governed by the teaching and principles of the New Testament; but no particular order or polity is enjoined in the Scriptures. A living Church will be largely moulded by its inner life, and should be free to adapt its methods and agencies to