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I.

It is evidently God's purpose to carry on His work of spiritual life-giving and restoration in the world through the instrumentality of those who have been quickened by His Spirit, and brought under the controlling power of His love. This important truth is illustrated in the religious history of our race, and distinctly unfolded in the revelations of the Divine Word. Each renewed soul is to be a living spring in the moral desert of humanity—a beacon light pointing the perplexed mariners on life's dark and stormy sea to the haven of safety—a centre of holy influences working effectually for the emancipation of sinful men—a fire from which other hearts shall catch the light and warmth of heaven. But each Christian is not to be an independent, isolated worker, moved by his own impulses, without co-operation with his fellow-workers. This would cause universal confusion and waste of power. Organization and order characterize all successful applications of human force to the accomplishment of important ends. In this respect men feebly copy the Divine methods. God has appointed the ordinances which govern the