

very dear friend; and in common with many of my brethren, I greatly desired to have him sit with us at the Lord's Table. At that time I had not examined the question of communion, but was governed in the matter by misguided feelings, and consequently was in favor of open communion. So I spoke to Rev. Mr. S——— confidentially and requested him to speak to Brother H——— privately, and invite him to come to the table with us. I told him of his recent conversion, his zeal for Christ, and our great love for him as a true and devoted disciple.

Mr. S——— listened attentively until I concluded, then he said: "Is Brother H——— *a member of any church?*"

"No; he has not decided where he ought to unite. He has that matter now under prayerful consideration."

"Well, I cannot invite him to the Lord's Table. *That is an ordinance of the Church*, and only those who are *church members* have a right to come to it."

"Oh, but he is such a good man; we all love him so much. Please do invite him."

"No; I cannot. As for loving him, you can love him just as well, and fellowship him just as much if he does not come to the Table. The Lord's Table is not to *exhibit our love and fellowship for each other*, but to *commemorate the death of our Lord*. It will be time enough for Brother H——— to engage in the observance of this church service, when he has become a member of the Church."

"But Brother H——— has been baptized; he was baptized in infancy in the Church of England. *Is not that enough?*"

"No, sir. The Supper is a church ordinance, and it belongs to *not all who are baptized*, but *only to those who are baptized members of the church*. Bro. H——— has been baptized, but he is not a member of any church. He was baptized by a Minister of the Church of England. Very well. We respect his baptism; but he was not received into the membership of the Church of England. And he does not consider himself a member of that church, or of any other, and therefore *he has no right at the Lord's Table*, and *we have no right to invite him there till he unites with some evangelical church*."