

kind of service rendered. The progress of civilization is not the result of isolated and detached effort but of the co-operation of men in what we call human society. Each contributes his portion and all receive the benefit. So this is exactly the conception we get of the Church in Ephesians. After reciting (in Chap. iv.) the different gifts of the Spirit, He shows that they are all used in co-operation "for the perfecting of the saints unto the work of ministering unto the building up of the body of Christ till we all obtain unto the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God unto a full grown man unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ." It is only in that fellowship we can render completest service and attain full grown spiritual manhood.

2. It is a definite way of showing our loyalty and devotion to Christ.

This was true in the persecuting times of the Church more than in our own peaceful and tolerant days. Yet Jesus has said for all days, "Whosoever shall confess Me before men him will I also confess before My Father who is in heaven." And Paul in speaking of the Lord's Supper says, "For as often as ye eat this bread and drink this cup ye do proclaim the Lord's