

Church. I will not conceal that I love her from my very heart. But I trust that I have not written one unkind word concerning those who differ from us.

And why have I said so much about attachment to our Church? Because I know there are thousands who belong to her, who are yet unable to give any good reasons for their membership. And again because many who have separated themselves from her Communion, have done so through ignorance of what she really is; they are not aware of her excellencies, they have never looked into her teaching; but have run away with very wrong notions.

But I would have you bear *this* in mind. The Church we belong to may be pure, and sound and true; she may be a safe Guide to us, and a watchful Guardian over us; we may delight in her Services, partake of all her Ordinances, revere her Ministers, and take a lively interest in all that concerns her and yet be found unsaved at last. We may be devoted members of the visible Church on earth, and yet have no part in "the general assembly and Church of the first born, which are written in heaven."

Salvation is in Christ; out of Him we are unsaved. We must find our pardon, our acceptance, our peace in Him. He must be the rock on which we are built. We must hide ourselves in His riven side. We must be washed in His atoning blood. We must live upon Him by faith, from day to day, and from hour to hour.

If this book shall fall into the hands of a thoughtful and earnest Dissenter, I would say to him, my Christian brother, I wish to make you a Churchman, not because I want to add to our numbers, and swell our ranks, but because from my heart I believe that it will be better and happier for you. By returning to the primitive and ancient Church of your fathers, you will be taking a step well pleasing to God; you will be closing up one of the rents which have been made in the Christian body; you will find a safe resting place and home for your soul.

And you who are Churchmen like myself, I wish you to have a firmer hold of your Church; for I know that it will greatly help you. It is very desirable that you should feel that you have solid grounds for your Church membership—good reasons for clinging close to her—and good reasons for loving her as your mother and your Guide.

Yes, I want to see you hearty in your attachment to your own Communion; earnestly seeking her welfare, taking a deep interest in the work she is doing; and feeling that every member of her body is in one sense your Brother or Sister in Christ.

It is not merely the Clergy who should be earnest in the Church's cause; the People should be earnest, too, even the very humblest of them. Can we serve her? Can we do anything to promote her interests? Then let us do it with all our hearts. Let us be more faithful to our Church. Let us not be ashamed to stand up for her as those who feel heartily thankful that they belong to such a Fold. Other Christians are not ashamed of their Creeds; why should we be less zealous than they?

We do not claim complete perfection for our Church. She may have many faults; and so has everything in which man is concerned. But has she not been, and is she not still, a vast blessing to this country? She has given us a well-translated Bible, and a scriptural Liturgy. She has been honoured by a noble army of martyrs, and a glorious company of devoted servants of Christ. May her boundaries be enlarged, and her usefulness extended; and may thousands have cause to call her walls Salvation, and her gates Praise!