

That Society we call "the Church." Christ also called it "the Church." But more often He called it His "Kingdom," the "Kingdom of Heaven," the "Kingdom of God." Speaking on this subject, the late Archbishop Temple once said: "Men sometimes speak as if all the means for realizing the great ideal of humanity presented to us in Christ were left to man's devising, and therefore only a matter of expediency. Men speak as if Christians came first and the Church afterwards; as if the origin of the Church was in the wills of individual Christians who composed it. But, on the contrary, throughout the teaching of the Apostles we see that it is the Church which comes first and the members of it afterwards. Men were not brought to Christ and then determined that they would live in a community. Men were not brought to believe in Christ and in the Cross and then decided that it would be a great help to their religion that they should join one another in the worship of the Father through His name. In the New Testament, on the contrary, the Kingdom of Heaven is already in existence and men are invited into it. The Church takes its origin, not in the will of man, but in the will of the Lord Jesus Christ. Everywhere men are