

As Unitarian Christians, we differ from the Baptist denomination — in our doctrine concerning ordinances. The ordinances we value. They are beautiful symbols and efficacious means. We prize them, and use them. But we would be slow rather than eager to exaggerate their importance. And we cannot easily understand the delusion which causes intelligent and excellent people to raise the mere form of a form, a method of a means, into a condition of church fellowship. We should as soon think of making an exact agreement in pronunciation indispensable to the interchange of kind offices on a journey. It is not sufficient to say, that compliance with the letter of the Master's direction is of the first importance ; because, to pass over the question whether the words of Scripture must bear the construction which is put upon them by the members of this denomination, it shows a grievous misapprehension of the genius of our religion and the mind of its Founder, to care *more* for the letter than for the spirit of his teaching. It might be difficult to determine which makes the greater mistake in his use of Scripture, the literalist or the allegorizer.

As Unitarian Christians, we differ from the Methodist Connexion — in our doctrine concerning religious excitement. We do not decry all excitement. On the contrary, we preach that men should be interested in religion as in everything else of moment, and that they should be more interested in this than in anything else, because this is supremely important. We like earnestness and fervor in religion, if they be held under the restraint of principle and propriety. Perhaps we have not as much of these qualities as it is