

founded this church upon a rock, built it with His own hands; cemented it with His blood, and gave it strength and life by his spirit.

We can easily understand how vain and powerless must be human attempts to remould the work of God. The futile endeavors of so many synods called in order to reform creeds, naturally bring to our minds the vain efforts of the fabulous Titans who wished to reach heaven.

The creed taught by Christ is less subject to change than the laws of nature. Let us suppose that a society of learned men from their meeting room resolve that the Pyramids of Egypt are a fabulous assumption that British Columbia is an immense plain. Perhaps the sepulchres of the Pharaohs shall be changed into smoky columns and shall rise to the clouds and fade away with them! Perhaps shall we see the Rocky Mountains like thunder stricken, quaking and splitting with a dreadful crash; their heavy ranges lifted up by an invisible power, carried through the air and hurled into the Pacific Ocean, or may be, our crooked rivers now foaming in their deep and narrow canions, shall enlarge and straighten their banks and go smoothly to empty their waters into the sea!

Likewise let us suppose that a synodal assembly strike off the dogmas of eternal punishment in the other life and that children dying unregenerated in the baptismal waters will be saved. Shall we see the inhabitants of the fiery abode armed with chemical engines quenching the terrible flames, and will gold-winged angels come from above to gather the souls of the little ones and carry them to the bosom of God? Senseless dreams! Imaginary visions! For over forty centuries the Pyramids stand in the desert of Egypt; many generations of men shall be gone and the Rockies will still majestically tower into the clouds; yet even long after they shall have ceased to be, dogma shall still remain unchanged and unchangeable. The Earth and Heavens shall pass away, the word of the Lord shall not pass away.

God Himself cannot change dogmas. He may lift up a corner of the veil and permit a new ray of His divine truth to shine forth, but what has been seen of it, what has been believed shall never be rejected or obscured.

When a doubt arises concerning a point of the creed the church does not attempt to create what already exists, nor to rob even a spark of the heavenly fire; she convenes her councils and sets on an exploring tour. After having searched the Scriptures, after having asked all the information which can be supplied by those who lived in the past, especially in the earlier ages, when she is satisfied that she found the required revealed truth, she then reports to mankind and defines with certitude and authority, for her guide is the Holy Spirit of Wisdom.

Besides, religion being a bridge over the abyss between time and eternity, it is important that its extremities should reach the two sides.

Man left to himself knows little of one side and almost nothing of the other, and without the assistance of Him who is master of time and of eternity, he could never pass to an eternity of happiness. What a dreadful consequence it would be if the bridge on which we are crossing should not reach the other side of the precipice! Many a traveller on a railroad bridge has been kept breathless at the thought that if the frail structure should give way he would be dashed into the abyss beneath. Now, lives there a man who never had even a suspicion that the structure over which he is running at full speed to his eternity does not reach thither, but stops half way? What a catastrophe is awaiting him! God is good, may he say, He will save me if I serve him according to the dictates of my conscience. True God is good, but He is also just; when He created us He prescribed certain duties upon us, He imposed dogmas on our intellect, and gave commandments for our will, he traced out the way leading to Him. When He shall come to pass sentence on us,