

# CONFIRMATION.

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Confirmation means the Act of making firm—of strengthening.

It is this in two respects : (1) God confirming us by His Holy Spirit, "the Comforter" or Strengthener : (2) we confirming the promises made at Baptism. Of these the first is the more important and the Scriptural part : let us consider it.

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## THE GIFT OF CONFIRMATION

Read Acts viii. 5-18. Notice here that a Deacon preaches Christ ; people believe and are baptised (v. 12). But this is not enough (v. 16), so the Deacon stands aside, and Apostles (now Bishops) confirm by means of the laying on of hands\* and prayer (v. 15-17). Result, the Holy Ghost is given, (v. 17).

Another Confirmation. See Acts xix. 1-6. Same outward means used, same result follows (v. 6). But we have no instance of confirmation being administered by any but members of the highest order in the Ministry.

See also Hebrews vi. 1-2, where the "Laying on of hands" is placed among the "principles of the doctrine of Christ." How can we reasonably accept the other five "foundations" enumerated here (Repentance, Faith, Baptism, etc.) and reject Confirmation ? See also Ephesians i. 13.

Why should we desire in Confirmation to receive the Holy Ghost ? See What He does—convinces and guides (Jno.

\*NOTE—All through the Bible the laying on of hands is used in connection with the conveyance of different blessings. See Gen. XLVIII. 9; 14; Num. XXVII. 18; Mk. X. 16, etc.