

THE CHRISTIAN LIFE

REVIEW OF THE RITE OF CONFIRMATION

A LETTER TO THE CONFIRMANDS

On Your Confirmation Day

As a child of God, you have two birthdays. The first is the day of your birth into the world. The second is the day of your birth into the church. Sometime after your first birth-day, you were baptized and became a member of the body of Christ.

You may not remember the day of your Baptism. Your sponsors spoke of the faith the Holy Spirit had planted in your heart long before you were able to speak of it yourself. In order that you might confirm publicly what they promised years ago, the church has instituted the Rite of Confirmation. With your own lips, you repeated the solemn vows spoken for you at your Baptism.

It is a day to be remembered always, for it is a beginning not an end. As you make your way through life, there will be thousands of voices trying to tell you to forget your vows. There will be sins and temptation. The world outside of your church will try to persuade you to forget the promises you made at your confirmation.

But you will remember! You will remember the long hours of preparation for the brief moment in your confirmation service when you stood and confessed your faith before the family of God. You will remember the voice of your pastor reminding you to remain faithful unto death.

And whenever sin, trouble, or temptation in your life threaten to make you forget this day, you will run to Him who said, "I will never leave you or forsake you." He will be forever where He was on the day of your confirmation, near you with the crown of life in His nail-scarred hands.

Prayer

Lord Jesus, I thank You for making me Your child through my Baptism. Keep me always close to You so I may never forget Your love for me in bringing me into Your kingdom. Give me grace to remember the day when I stood before You and my church and promised to be faithful to You always. For Your name's sake. Amen.